

BLACK DIAMOND  
WESTERN

ANNOUNCING LEV GLEASON \$1,500.00 PRIZE CONTEST



MARCH  
NO. 9

# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN



10¢

FORMERLY DESPERADO

FULL  
**52** pages of  
ILLUSTORIES

LEV GLEASON, PUB., CHARLES BIRO AND BOB WOOD, EDITORS

TOWN PEOPLE  
OF JUNCTION  
YOU NEED NEVER  
WORRY AGAIN!  
I WILL ALWAYS  
BE HERE TO  
PROTECT YOU FROM  
LAWLESSNESS  
AND DANGER!  
THE BLACK  
DIAMOND  
U.S. MARSHAL  
OF THIS TERRITORY



WHEN TREACHERY AND VIOLENCE RULED THE WILD WEST, ONLY ONE MAN, THE BLACK DIAMOND, DARED TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST THE MASTER CRIMINAL, JEFF HAWKINS!—SEE INSIDE!





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**NOW! ALL 5 FAMOUS JOWETT COURSES IN 1 COMPLETE MUSCLE BUILDING VOLUME! FOR ONLY 25¢ AND MY PHOTO BOOK OF FAMOUS STRONG MEN! FREE!**

# They Used to "Push Me Around"

Says George F. Jowett . . . World's Strongest Man

BUT, JANE PROMISED ME THIS SWIM

OUT OF MY WAY SKINNY, SHE'S SWIMMING WITH ME!

GEORGE, IT'S TOO BAD, YOU'RE NOT MAN ENOUGH TO TAKE THIS SWIM WITH ME.

Let's Go Pal!

I'll prove I can make YOU, too, a **HUSKY He-Man** FAST—or it won't cost you a cent!

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I'll teach you the "Progressive Power Method" through which I rebuilt myself from a physical wreck the doctors condemned to die at 15, to the holder of more strength records than any other living athlete or teacher! "Progressive Power" has proven its ability to build the strongest, handsomest men in the world. And I stand ready to show you an O money bash bash—that no matter how flabby or puny you are, I can do the same for you right in your own home. Let me prove I can add inches to your arms, broaden your shoulders, give you a man-stand chest, powerful legs and a hawk-like back—in ten fast, painless post your whole body to quickly it will amaze you! Yes, I'll join you with power and self-confidence to maintain any situation—to win popularity—and to get ahead on the job! Through my proven method I bring to life new power in you inside and out, until YOU are fully satisfied you are the man you want to be.

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Jowett-trained athlete who was named America's first prize-winner for Physical Perfection.



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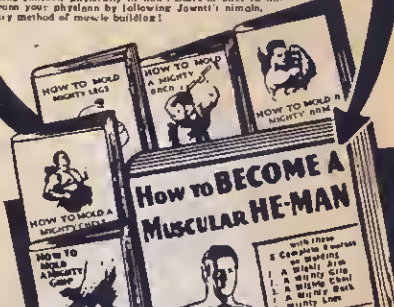
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PRESENTING THE THRILLING ADVENTURES OF THE

# BLACK DIAMOND

IN THE DAYS OF THE DESPERADOES!

BEGIN HERE THE SAGA OF BOB VALE, AS THIS HARD-RIDING PEACE OFFICER OF THE OPEN PLAINS DISPATCHES JUSTICE! STEP BACK THROUGH THE PAGES OF DARING HISTORY, AS THE EXPLOITS OF THIS LEGENDARY KNIGHT OF THE PRAIRIES RECREATE THE WEST OF YESTERYEAR!

CHIEF THE IRON HORSE  
INVADES THE HUNTING  
GROUND OF YOUR ANCESTORS,  
BRINGING MORE AND MORE  
SETTLERS TO KILL YOUR  
GAME AND STEAL YOUR  
LAND! YOU MUST  
ACT!

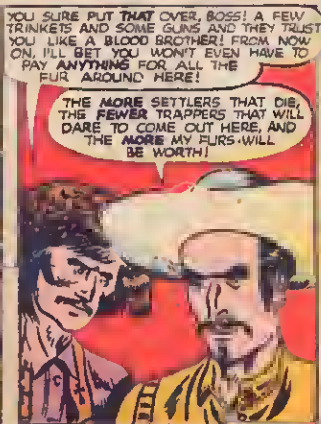
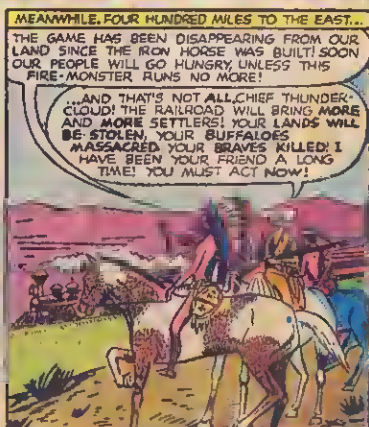
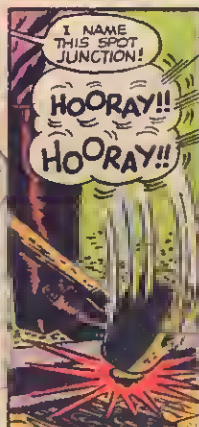
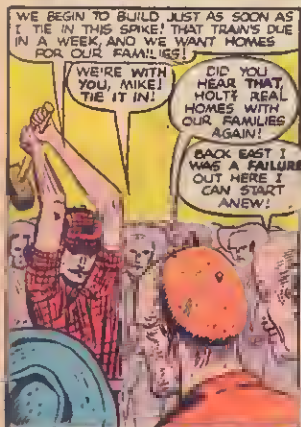
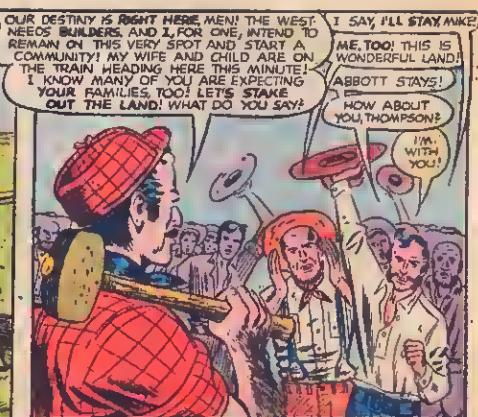
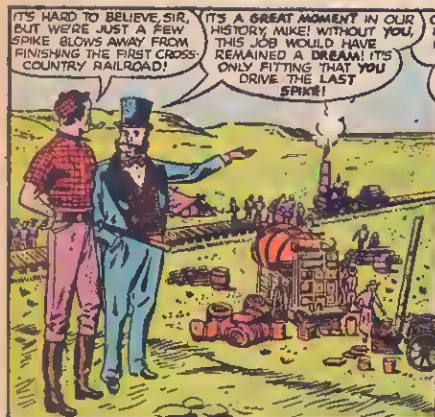
MY WHITE FRIEND SPEAKS  
WITH A STRAIGHT TONGUE!  
MY PEOPLE WILL NOT  
STARVE AND BE DRIVEN  
FROM THEIR HOMES! WE  
WILL ATTACK AND EVERY  
MAN, WOMAN AND  
CHILD MUST DIE!



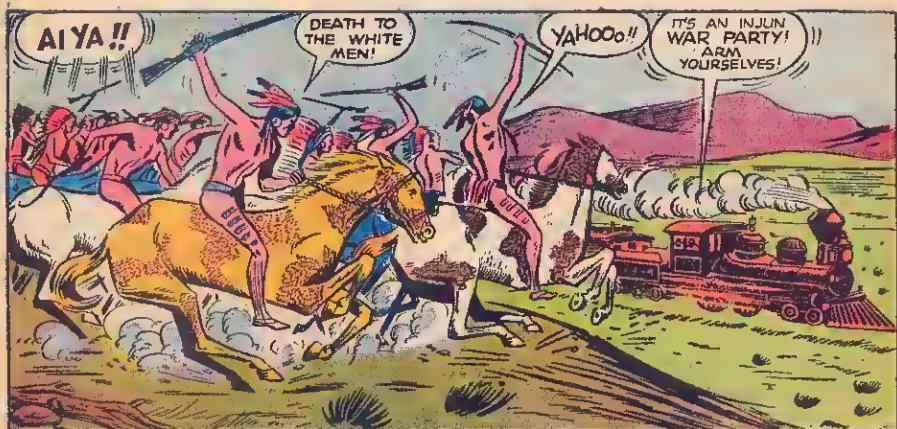
ILLUSTRATED BY  
*Will and  
Overgard*

IN  
CONSIDERATION  
OF INNOCENT  
PEOPLE INVOLVED AND  
RELATIVES OF OTHERS,  
THE NAMES OF CHARACTERS  
DEPICTED IN BLACK DIAMOND  
WESTERN USE FICTITIOUS  
ANY SIMILARITY TO NAMES  
PEOPLE LIVING OR  
DEAD, IS ENTIRELY  
COINCIDENTAL THIS IN NO  
WAY AFFECTS THE  
ACCURACY OF THE  
TRUE STORIES.  
The Editors

ON A WESTERN PLAIN, IN 1869 YEARS OF BACK-BREAKING EFFORT RESULTED IN THE COMPLETION OF A BAND OF STEEL, THE FIRST CROSS-COUNTRY RAILROAD! IT BROUGHT TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME THE SHIPBUILDER FROM BOSTON, THE COTTON GROWER FROM SAVANNAH, AND THE RANCHERS FROM CALIFORNIA! BUT THERE WERE SOME UNSCRUPULOUS MEN WHO DID NOT DESIRE TO SHARE THE RICHNESS OF THE WILDERNESS, AND IT IS BECAUSE OF ONE SUCH MAN THAT THIS STORY IS TOLD!







IT WAS! SOMEONE MUST HAVE TOUCHED 'EM OFF! THUNDERCLOUDS BEEN AT PEACE FOR YEARS...

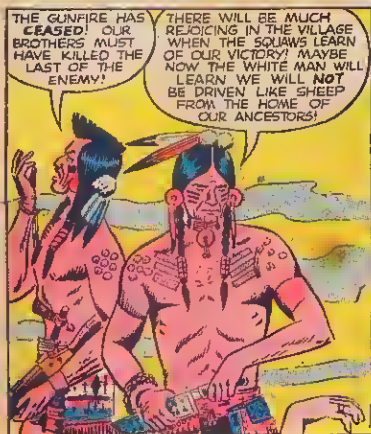


WITH WHAT? WE'RE ALMOST POWDER DRY! CURSE WHO EVER STARTED 'EM OFF! THEY'RE OUT TO MASSACRE US ALL!

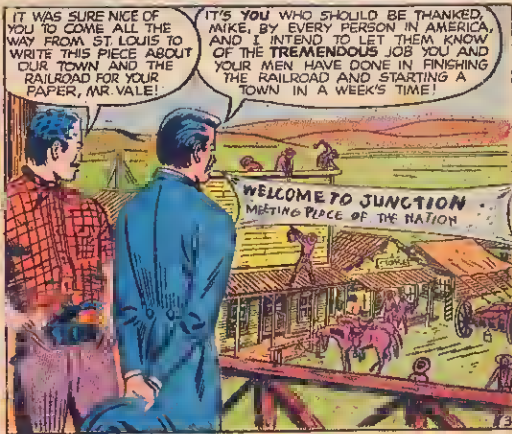


SAM! OH, NO!

SHH...DON'T MAKE A SOUND! IT'S YOUR ONLY CHANCE!

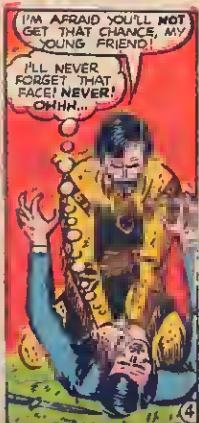
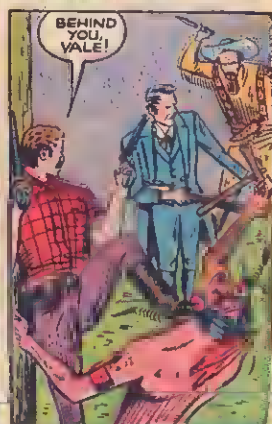
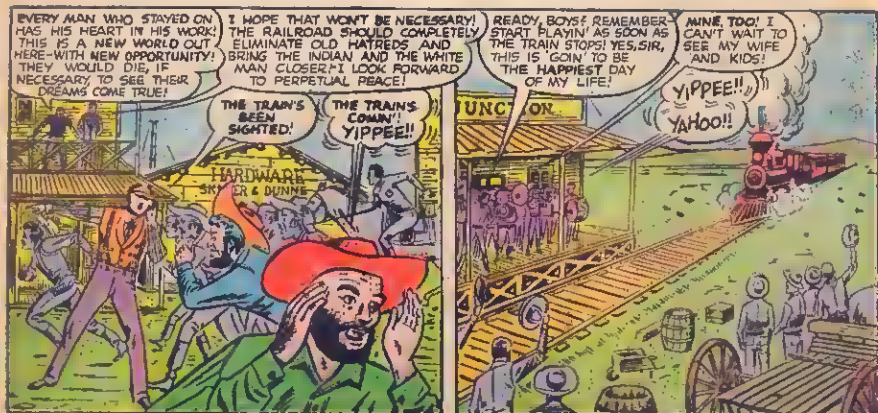


THERE WILL BE MUCH REJOICING IN THE VILLAGE WHEN THE SQUAWS LEARN OF OUR VICTORY! MAYBE NOW THE WHITE MAN WILL LEARN WE WILL NOT BE DRIVEN LIKE SHEEP FROM THE HOME OF OUR ANCESTORS!

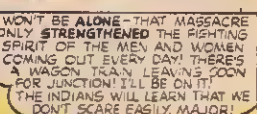
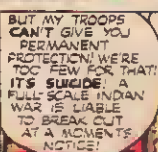


IT'S YOU WHO SHOULD BE THANKED, MIKE, BY EVERY PERSON IN AMERICA, AND I INTEND TO LET THEM KNOW OF THE TREMENDOUS JOB YOU AND YOUR MEN HAVE DONE IN FINISHING THE RAILROAD AND STARTING A TOWN IN A WEEK'S TIME!

WELCOME TO JUNCTION  
MEETING PLACE OF THE NATION









THOSE ARE PROUD WORDS AND I'M PROUD OF YOU, MR. VALE—GOOD LUCK! BUT WHAT OF THE CHILD? I'VE NOTICED YOU'VE BECOME RATHER FOND OF HIM!

I INTEND TO ADOPT HIM! HE AND I HAVE A COMMON INTEREST IN JUNCTION NOW!

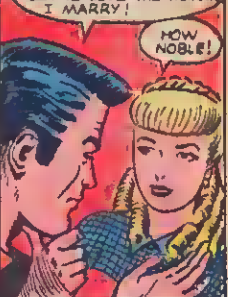
ME, BECAUSE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER ARE BURIED THERE, AND I, BECAUSE MY HEART LIES THERE! I'M GOING OVER TO THE FOUNDING HOME AND FILE FOR HIM LEGALLY, RIGHT NOW!



LOYD VALE, WHAT'S THIS I HEAR ABOUT YOUR WANTING TO ADOPT YOUNG BOB? YOU KNOW VERY WELL IT'S AN ORPHANAGE RULE THAT NO SINGLE PERSON CAN ADOPT A CHILD!

COME NOW, MARTHA, YOU CAN MAKE AN EXCEPTION IN MY CASE! DON'T TELL ME I'VE GOT TO GET MARRIED! ANYWAY, I HAVEN'T GOT TIME—THE TRAIN IS LEAVIN' IN A FEW DAYS AND I DON'T EVEN KNOW ANY WOMEN IN THIS TOWN!

I GUESS I WON'T BE TAKING YOUNG BOB WITH ME, THEN! GOSH, I WANT THAT KID MORE THAN ANYTHING BUT I CAN'T MARRY JUST ANYBODY! I GUESS I'M OLD-FASHIONED BUT I'VE GOT TO LOVE THE WOMAN I MARRY!



SAY, I NEVER GAVE YOU A THOUGHT! I ALWAYS FELT YOU WERE—OH, I DON'T KNOW WHAT I THOUGHT! BUT I COULDN'T MARRY ANYONE ELSE BECAUSE I'VE BEEN IN LOVE WITH YOU ALL ALONG AND DIDN'T HAVE SENSE ENOUGH TO KNOW IT!

CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

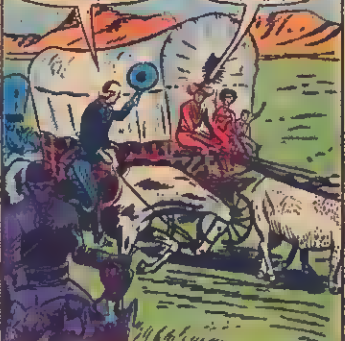


LOYD VALE, YOU ARE THE SLOWEST, MOST UNROMANTIC MAN A GIRL EVER FELL FOR, BUT I LOVE YOU, TOO... I HAVE FROM THE FIRST!



THIS IS AS FAR AS WE CAN TAKE YOU, VALE! GOOD-BYE AND GOOD LUCK! YOU TOO, MRS. VALE!

SO LONG, MAJOR, AND THANKS! WE'LL MANAGE IT FROM HERE ON IN!

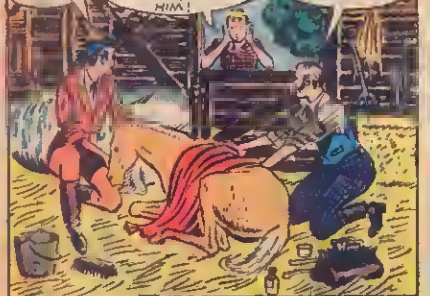


IN THE NEXT TWELVE YEARS, THE SMALL COMMUNITY OF JUNCTION GREW AND PROSPERED! A SMALL DAUGHTER, PATRICIA, WAS BORN TO THE VALES! MERCHANTS CAME, AND RANCHES GREW, AND THE MEMORY OF A DAY IN 1869 WAS ALL BUT FORGOTTEN!

NOW BOB, DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO COME?

BUT, GEE WHIZ, DAD, YOU PROMISED I COULD HAVE THE COLT! I GOTTA START TAKING CARE OF HIM!

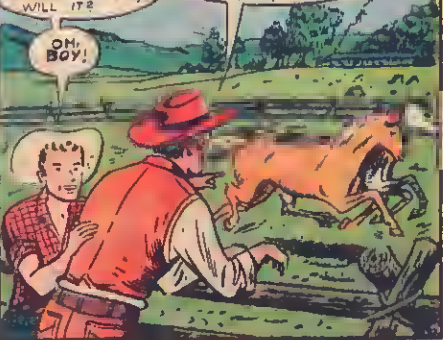
THAT'S QUITE A BOY YOU'VE GOT, VALE! IT'LL DO HIM GOOD TO LEARN!



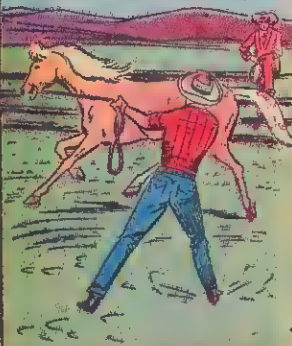
LOOK DAD, MY COLT IS ALMOST AS FAST AS THE MARE IS! I GUESS IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE HE'S STRONG ENOUGH TO RIDE, WILL IT?

OH, BOY!

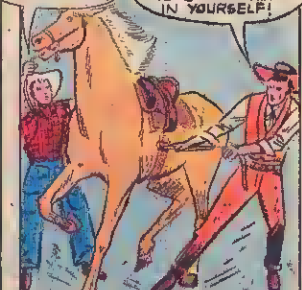
NO, SON, I GUESS IT WON'T. BOYS AND COLTS—I DON'T KNOW WHICH GROW FASTER! ANY DAY NOW WE'LL START TRAININ' HIM!



THAT'S RIGHT-KEEP HIM GOING AROUND IN A CIRCLE! HE'LL GET USED TO THE ROPE THAT WAY!



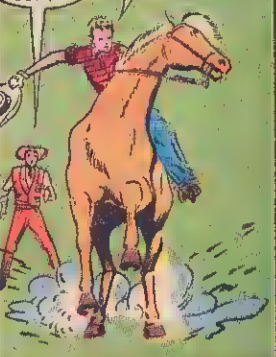
GETTING THE SADDLE ON HIM WASN'T TOO HARD, DAD! DO YOU SUPPOSE HE TRUSTS ME ENOUGH TO LET ME RIDE HIM?



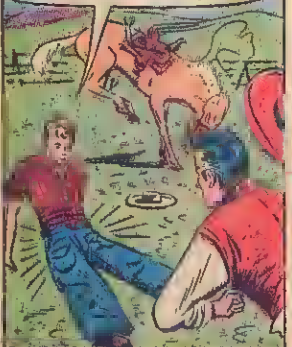
HE TRUSTS YOU, OR HE WOULDN'T STAND STILL, BUT HE'LL GO WILD THE FIRST TIME HE FEELS YOUR WEIGHT ON HIS BACK! HOP ON AND STAY THERE! YOU'VE GOT TO BREAK HIM IN YOURSELF!

HE FEELS YOU-HOLD TIGHT, SON!

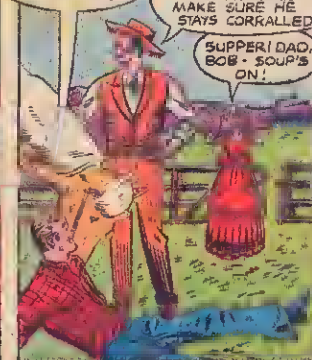
WHOA, BOY! EASY-IT'S ME!



OWW! I'M OKAY, DAD- JUST WATCH HIM! HE ALWAYS COMES RUNNING WHEN I'M IN TROUBLE OR HURT! HE SEEMS TO SENSE IT- JUST LIKE THAT TIME THE RATTLER ALMOST GOT ME, AND HE STAMPED IT TO DEATH!



SEE, WHAT DID I TELL YOU! WHAT A HORSE! I CAN HARDLY WAIT TILL I CAN RIDE HIM TO SCHOOL!



THEN YOU'D BETTER TAKE CARE OF HIM! THAT MOUNTAIN LION WE HEAR EVERY NIGHT! SEEMS TO BE GETTING CLOSER! MAKE SURE HE STAYS CORRALLED!

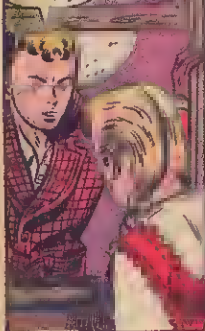
SUPPER! DAD, BOB- SOUP'S ON!

GEE, PATRICIA! WON'T MOM BE SURPRISED WHEN I BRING BACK THAT MOUNTAIN LION'S HIDE? I CAN GIVE IT TO HER FOR HER BIRTHDAY!

YES, SHE'S ALWAYS WANTED A LION SKIN FOR A RUG IN HER ROOM! CAN I COME ALONG, BOB?



OF COURSE NOT! HOW COULD I SHOOT A LION WITH A GIRL ALONG? HUNTING IS A MAN'S JOB! YOU GO BACK AND COVER UP FOR ME!



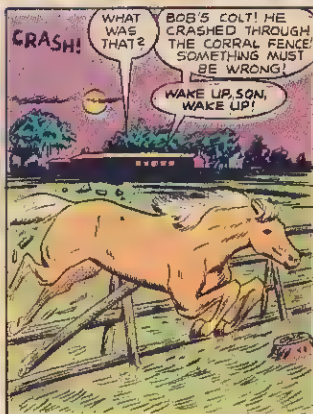
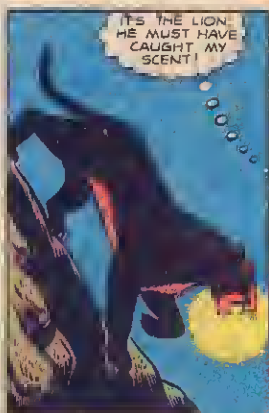
I MUST BE GETTING CLOSE- THIS WATERHOLE TRACK ISN'T MORE THAN AN HOUR OLD- I BET HE'S HEADED FOR THAT OLD CAVE!

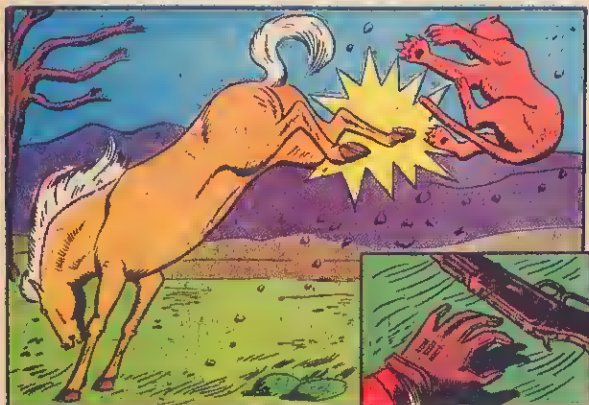


THAT'S THE LION! THAT'S HIM!









SON, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

HE SAVED MY LIFE AGAIN! DIDN'T I TELL YOU HE COULD TELL WHEN I WAS IN TROUBLE?

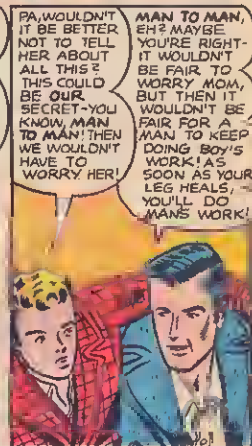
I'VE NEVER SEEN AN ANIMAL WITH SUCH AN ATTACHMENT FOR A HUMAN AS HE HAS FOR YOU! THAT HORSE WILL NEVER LET YOU DOWN!

AND I WON'T LET YOU DOWN EITHER, DAD-FROM NOW ON I WON'T GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT YOU! GOSH, DAD, DID YOU EVER SEE SUCH A WONDERFUL HORSE?

NO, AND THAT'S A FACT, BUT WHEN MOM FINDS OUT YOU WENT LION HUNTING WITHOUT HER PERMISSION SHE'S GOING TO PADDLE THE STUFFING OUT OF YOU!

PA, WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER NOT TO TELL HER ABOUT ALL THIS? THIS COULD BE OUR SECRET- YOU KNOW, MAN TO MAN! THEN WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORRY HER!

MAN TO MAN, EH? MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT- IT WOULDN'T BE FAIR TO WORRY MOM, BUT THEN IT WOULDN'T BE FAIR FOR A MAN TO KEEP DOING BOY'S WORK! AS SOON AS YOUR LEGS HEAL, YOU'LL DO MANS WORK!

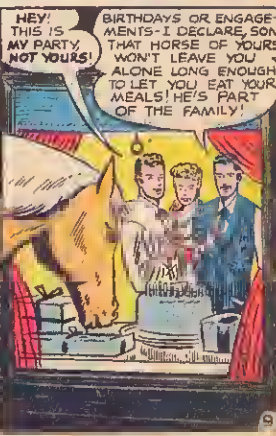


HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU, HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU, HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR BOB, HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

SPEECH!

A FEW YEARS HAVE PASSED AND NOW AT TWENTY-ONE, BOB HAS REACHED MANHOOD!

I WANT TO TELL YOU HOW GLAD I AM TO HAVE A MOTHER AND FATHER WHO LOVE ME SO MUCH, AND ESPECIALLY BECAUSE THEY PICKED ME OUT OF ALL THE OTHER ORPHANS, AND WANTED ME ENOUGH TO ADOPT ME! I WANT TO TELL PAT HOW PROUD I AM OF HER AND THAT WE'RE GOING TO GET MARRIED SOME DAY! SHE'S THE PRETTIEST GIRL IN THE WHOLE WORLD!



HEY! THIS IS MY PARTY, NOT YOURS!

BIRTHDAYS OR ENGAGEMENTS- I DECLARE, SON, THAT HORSE OF YOURS WON'T LEAVE YOU ALONE LONG ENOUGH TO LET YOU EAT YOUR MEALS! HE'S PART OF THE FAMILY!



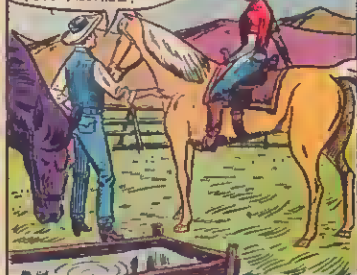
I COULDN'T GIVE YOU THIS RING DOWNSTAIRS, BOB, BUT NOW YOU'RE A MAN, I FEEL THAT YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW! I GOT THIS BLACK DIAMOND RING FROM THE HAND OF THE MAN WHO MASSACRED YOUR PARENTS! I TRIED FOR YEARS TO FIND A CLUE TO ITS OWNER, BUT I'VE FAILED - NOW IT'S UP TO YOU - IT'S YOUR FIGHT, SON!



A BLACK DIAMOND RING! SO THIS IS THE CLUE TO THE KILLER! ALL RIGHT, DAD, I'LL LEAVE TOMORROW... I'LL LOOK EVERYWHERE... IF HE'S STILL ALIVE, I'LL FIND HIM! I WON'T BE BACK UNTIL I DO!

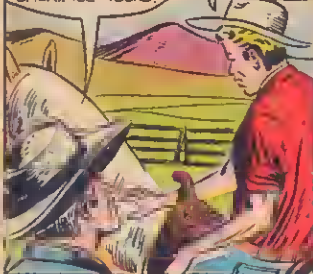


MR. MARKS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE BANK, WAS JUST HERE! IT'S A LONG STORY BUT, IN SHORT, THEY REFUSED MY REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION! EITHER I MEET THE NOTE NOW OR LOSE THE RANCH! I GUESS YOU'LL HAVE TO PUT OFF THE TRIP FOR AWHILE!



LOSE THE RANCH? BUT WHAT ABOUT THE STOCK? YOU COULD SELL IT! YOU OWN THE FINEST HORSE-FLESH IN THE WEST! I'LL BRING A HIGH PRICE!

I'VE ALREADY MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH A TRAVELING HORSE BUYER TO SELL EVERY HEAD! I'M EVEN SELLING MINE! I'D RATHER CUT OFF MY ARM THAN HAVE TO DO THIS, SON, BUT I'VE GOT TO ASK YOU TO SACRIFICE YOURS!



SELL MY HORSE! BUT HE'S LIKE PART OF ME! WHY, HE EVEN SAVED MY LIFE!

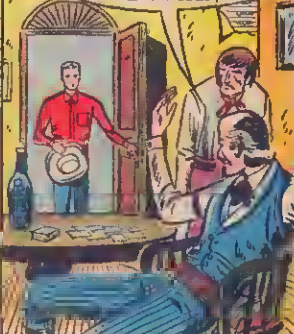
ALL RIGHT, DAD, YOU KNOW BEST!

I KNEW YOU'D SAY THAT, SON, SO I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF SELLING HIM! YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE HERD INTO TOWN! I NEVER MET THIS MR. HAWKINS! I ONLY KNOW HIS FOREMAN! HE'S STAYING AT THE HOTEL! THE TOTAL COMES TO \$5,000... WHICH IS HALF OF WHAT WE NEED!



THE ONLY ONE WE'RE KEEPING IS A STRONG WORKHORSE!

COME IN, KID, COME IN - SO YOU'RE VALE'S SON, EH? DON'T BE BASHFUL! WE'LL HAVE A DRINK AND THEN SIGN THE PAPERS... SPIDER, GET SOME GLASSES!

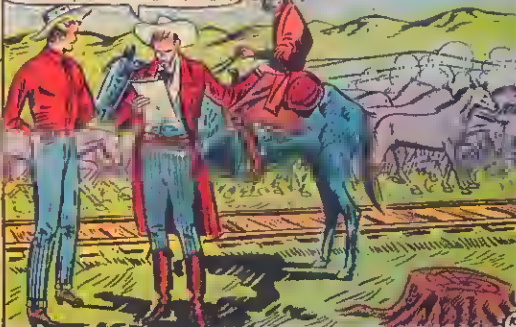


NO, THANKS, MR. HAWKINS, I DON'T DRINK! I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND CLOSING THE DEAL IN A HURRY! I MUST GET BACK IMMEDIATELY! I'VE GOT THE HERD CORRALLED BY THE TRACKS - YOU CAN HAVE A LOOK AT THEM THERE!

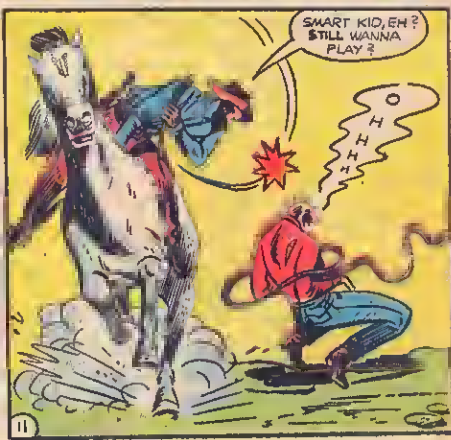
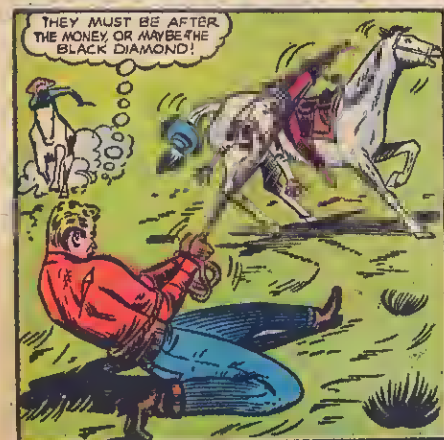
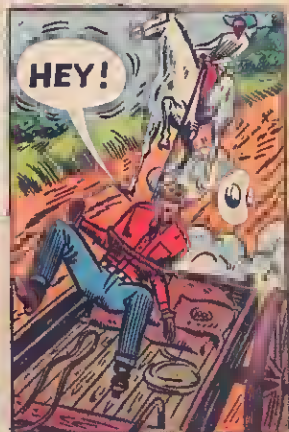
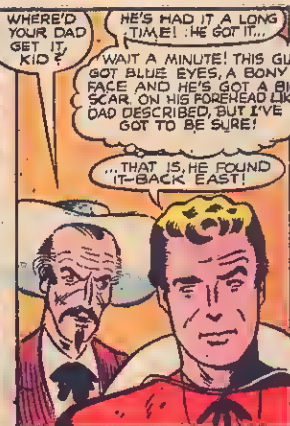


A REAL QUICK BUSINESSMAN, EH? WELL, SUIT YOURSELF, KID! SPIDER, GET MY JACKET!

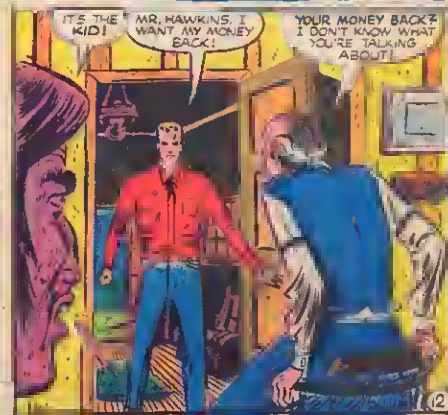
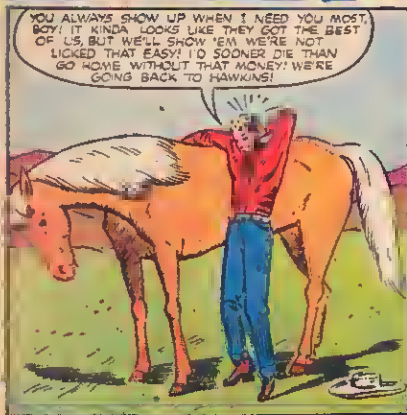
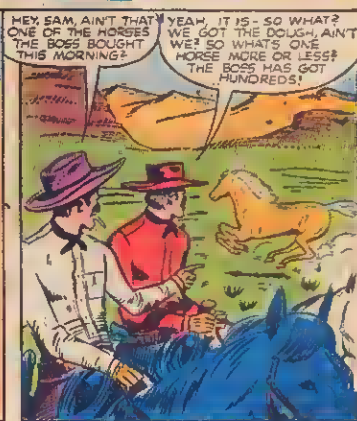
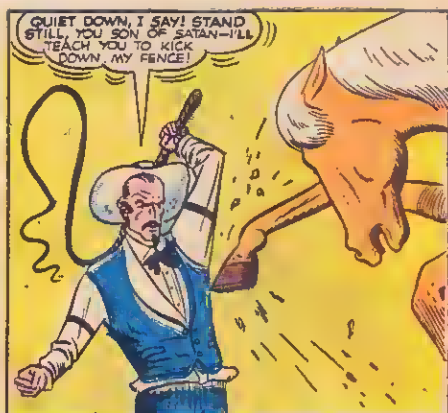
EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE IN ORDER, KID, SO IF YOU'LL JUST SIGN THIS BILL OF SALE, I'LL GIVE YOU THE MONEY... SPIDER, HAND ME MY PEN!

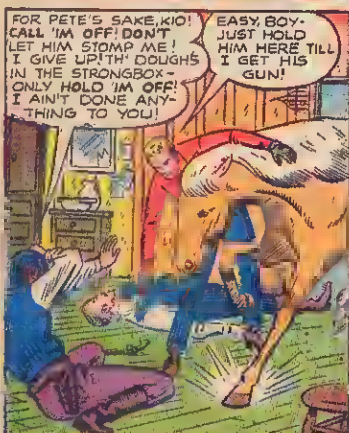
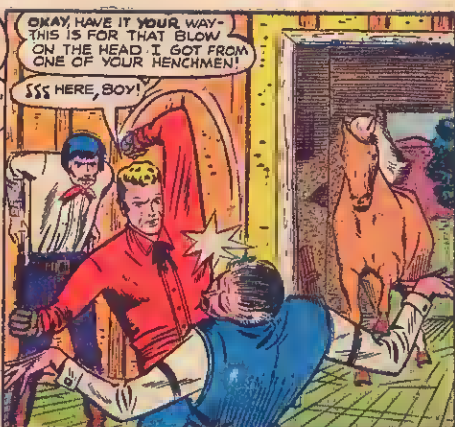
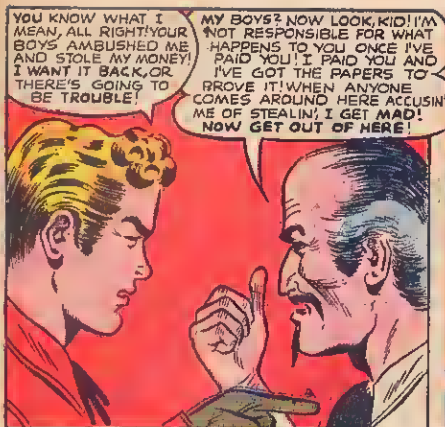


YEAH, SURE, BOSS!



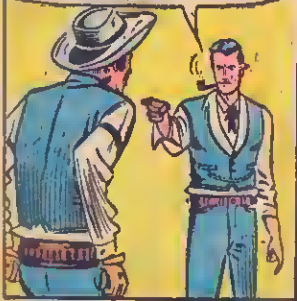








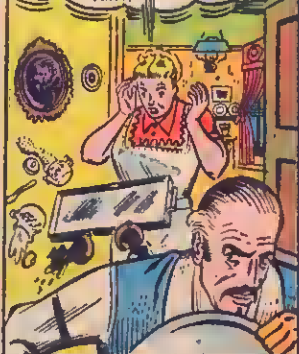
YOUR FACE IS VERY FAMILIAR... JUST WHAT IS YOUR GAME, HAWKINS? IF MY BOY HAD STOLEN MONEY FROM YOU WHY WOULDN'T YOU HAVE GONE TO THE SHERIFF INSTEAD OF COMING HERE? THERE'S SOMETHING AWFULLY FISHY ABOUT YOU! I BETTER GO SEE THE SHERIFF AND...



...JUST WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I'LL LET YOU TALK TO THE SHERIFF?



DARLING, WILL YOU AND YOUR GUEST HAVE SOME COFFEE?... EEIIIEEE! YOU'VE KILLED HIM!



MOM, WHAT'S ALL THE SHOOTING ABOUT? WHAT HAPPENED?

THEY KILLED YOUR FATHER!

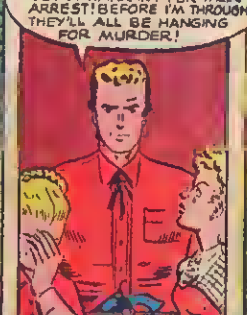
OH, THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE HERE! IT WAS AWFUL! THAT BUYER MR. HAWKINS, CAME HERE WITH HIS MEN! HE HAD A ROW WITH DAD AND SHOT HIM!

MR. HAWKINS? THEN DAD MUST HAVE RECOGNIZED HIM AS THE MAN WHO LED THE INDIANS DURING THE JUNCTION MASSACRE! HE TRIED TO ROB ME, TOO! PAT, LOOK AFTER MOM! I'M GOING TO TOWN TO SWEAR OUT A WARRANT FOR THEIR ARREST! BEFORE I'M THROUGH, THEY'LL ALL BE HANGING FOR MURDER!

THERE HE IS NOW, SHERIFF... PROBABLY CAME HERE TO TELL YOU A PACK OF LIES... BUT WE SAW HIM, DIDN'T WE BOYS? HE SHOT HIS OWN FATHER, AND THEN HE ROBBED HIM... SEARCH HIM IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE... SHE'S GOT THE \$5,000 I GAVE HIS FATHER FOR THE REED!

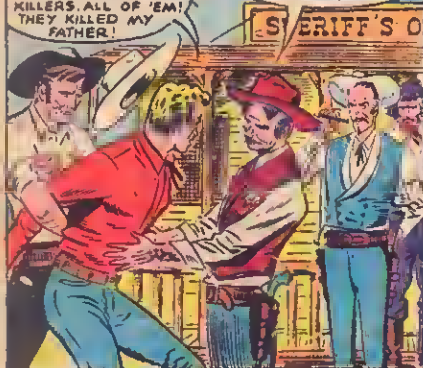
YOU CAN SEE THE BULGE IN HIS SHIRT!

WE'LL SOON SEE!



HEY, SHERIFF! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? OH, SO YOU'RE HERE! WHAT KIND OF LIES HAVE THEY BEEN HANDING YOU, SHERIFF? THEY'RE KILLERS, ALL OF 'EM! THEY KILLED MY FATHER!

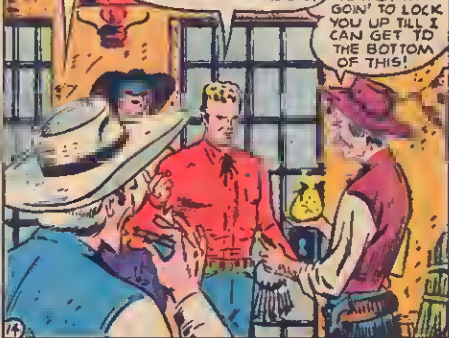
JUST HOLD STILL, SON, AND I'LL SOON FIND OUT WHO'S LYING! WHAT'S THAT IN YOUR SHIRT?

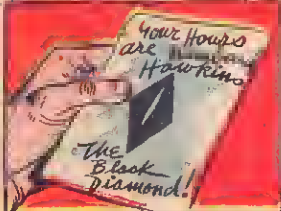
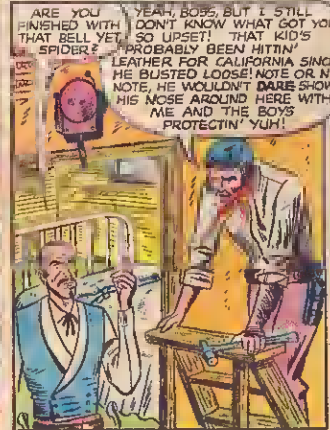
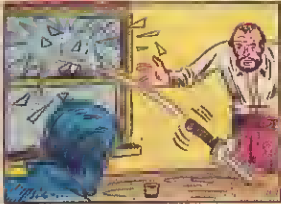
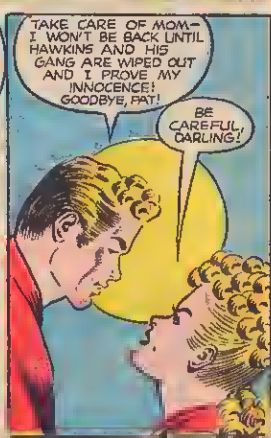
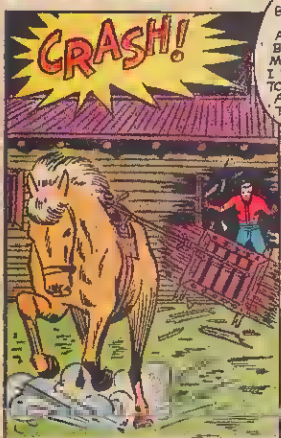


THAT'S THE MONEY, ALL RIGHT! WHAT DID I TELL YOU, SHERIFF?

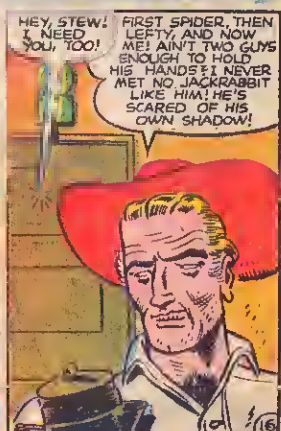
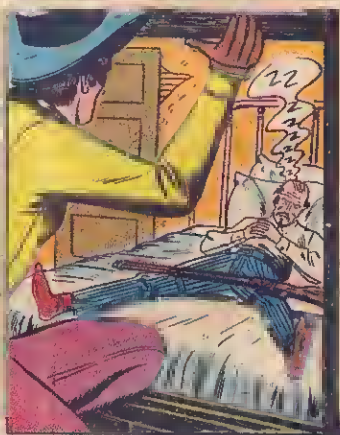
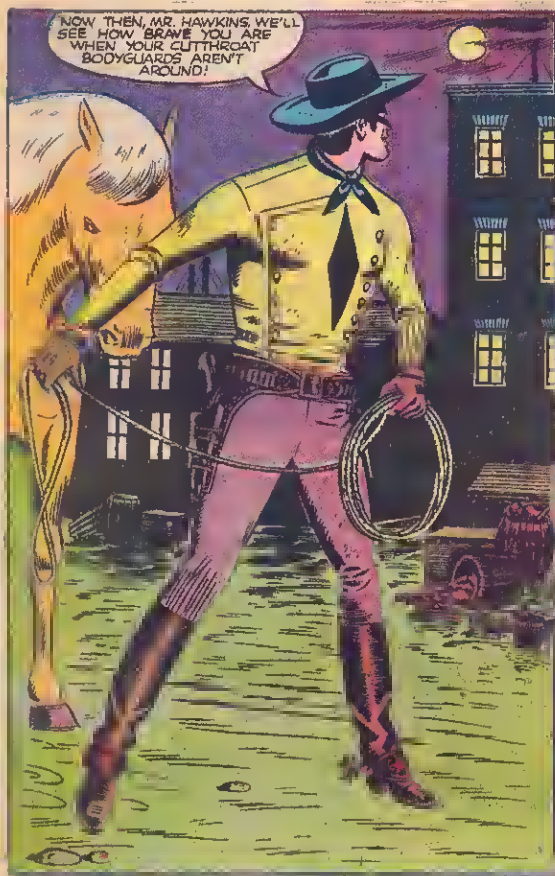
OF COURSE IT'S THE MONEY! BUT I DIDN'T STEAL IT! THESE CROOKS TRIED TO ROB ME! THEY SHOT MY DAD! YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME! THEY'RE MURDERERS!

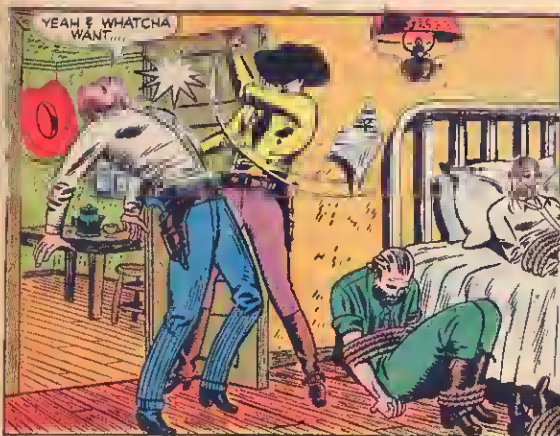
I'VE GOT TO BELIEVE MY EYES, AN' THIS DUST MAKES YOU LOOK PLENTY GUILTY TO ME! I'M GOIN' TO LOCK YOU UP TILL I CAN GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS!











YEAH & WHATCHA WANT...

THESE ARE THE HOS-TIED OUTLAWS I WANT YOU TO SEND THE MESSAGE ABOUT!

I STILL DON'T SAVVY WHY YOU CUNT SHOW YOUR FACE, MISTER, BUT SINCE IT'S THE UNITED STATES SENDIN' FOR I GUESS IT'S ALL RIGHT! BETTER COME IN AND DICTATE!

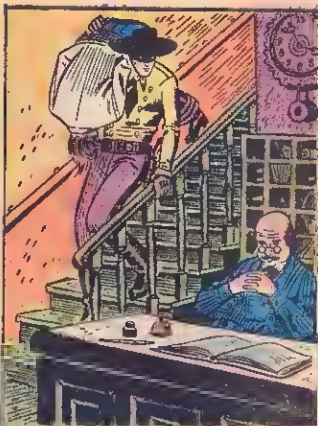
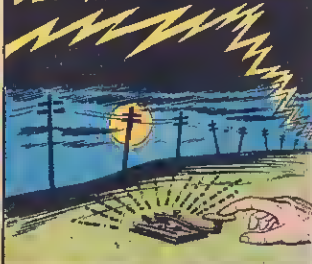


THESE ARE THE HOS-TIED OUTLAWS I WANT YOU TO SEND THE MESSAGE ABOUT!

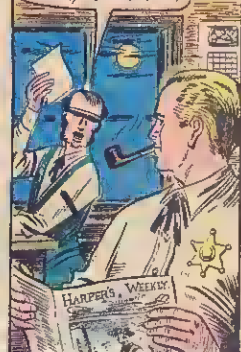
THAT'S MY MAN! ALL RIGHT! THE GOVERNMENT HAS HUNTED HIM FOR TWELVE YEARS SINCE WE SIGNED THAT TREATY WITH CHIEF THUNDERCLOUD AND FOUND OUT WHO THE RENEGADE WAS IT'LL BE A PLEASURE TO TAKE HIM OFF YOUR HANDS!



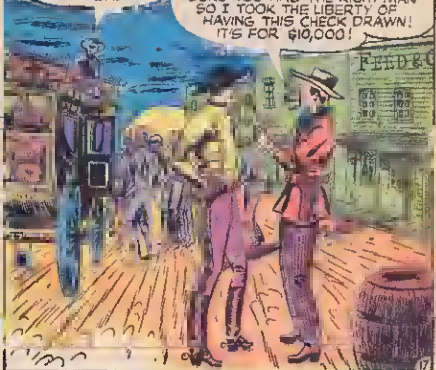
HAVE CAPTURED  
RENEGADE LEADER  
OF JUNCTION MASSACRE  
OF APRIL 13, 1869....  
DESCRIPTION FOLLOWS.



WOW! MARSHAL, LISTEN TO THIS! IT JUST CAME OVER THE WIRE! IF IT'S TRUE, YOUR SEARCH FOR JEFF HAWKINS IS OVER... HERE, YOU READ IT!

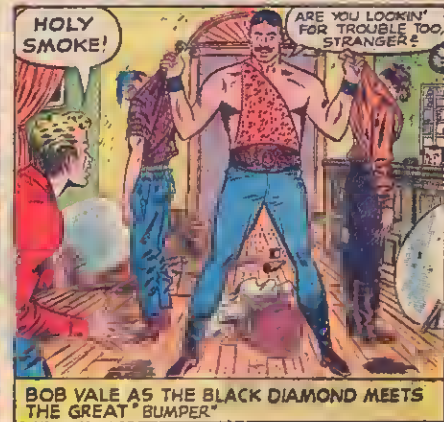
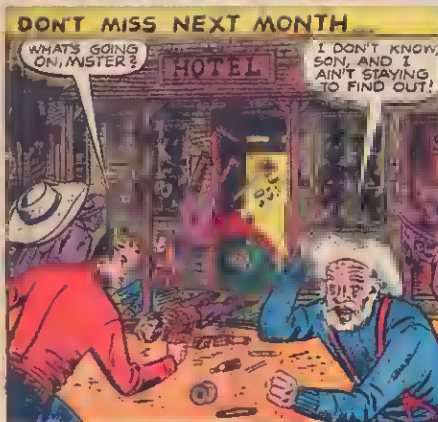
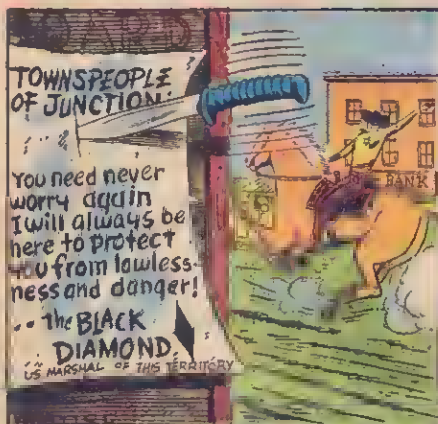
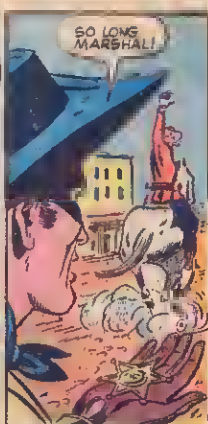
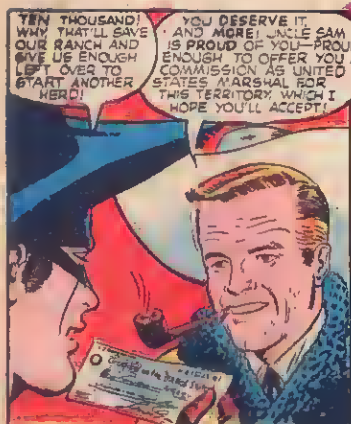


GET IN THERE, YOU VARMINTS! YOUR GUNNING DAYS ARE OVER!



THERE'S A SLIGHT MATTER OF A REWARD! FROM THE DESCRIPTION, I WAS PRETTY SURE YOU HAD THE RIGHT MAN SO I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF HAVING THIS CHECK DRAWN! IT'S FOR \$10,000!





# OBEY THE LAW

## SURE AS SHOOTIN'

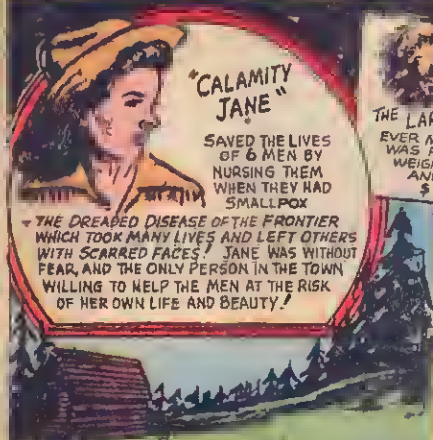
by  
CLAUDE  
MOORE



**BILL GAY** of Gaysville

WAS SENTENCED TO THE PENITENTIARY FOR MURDER BUT — AFTER THREE YEARS HE WAS PARDONED BY THE GOVERNOR! HIS HOME TOWN GAVE HIM A HERO'S WELCOME — THE STREETS WERE DECORATED, THERE WAS A BIG PARADE — BANDS PLAYED AND PEOPLE CHEERED! AS SOON AS THE EXCITEMENT DIED DOWN, BILL GAY SHOT AND KILLED ANOTHER MAN AND THE TOWN HAD ANOTHER BIG CELEBRATION — A HANGING PARTY FOR BILL GAY!

DISCOVERED A RICH VEIN OF GOLD in the Black Hills, Arizona — HE KEPT IT COVERED WITH DIRT AND NEVER TOLD ANYONE ABOUT HIS FIND BECAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT THE WHITE MEN TO FIND OUT ABOUT IT AND INVADE HIS HUNTING GROUND! HIS LAND WAS WORTH MORE TO HIM THAN THE FORTUNE IN GOLD!



"CALAMITY JANE"

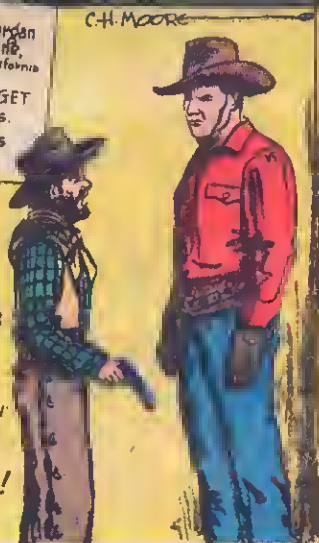
SAVED THE LIVES OF 6 MEN BY NURSING THEM WHEN THEY HAD SMALLPOX

— THE DREADED DISEASE OF THE FRONTIER WHICH TOOK MANY LIVES AND LEFT OTHERS WITH SCARRED FACES! JANE WAS WITHOUT FEAR, AND THE ONLY PERSON IN THE TOWN WILLING TO HELP THE MEN AT THE RISK OF HER OWN LIFE AND BEAUTY!

**Morgan Mine, California**  
THE LARGEST GOLD NUGGET EVER MINED IN THE U.S. WAS FOUND THERE — IT WEIGHED 195 POUNDS AND WAS WORTH \$43,534.22

**BILL LINN,**  
Stagecoach Driver,

STRUCK TERROR INTO BANDITS ALONG HIS ROUTE BY JUST STEPPING DOWN FROM THE DRIVERS SEAT — HE WAS 7 FEET TALL!



THE LOST SETTLEMENT!

WHEN THE FIRST SETTLERS FOUND GOLD IN THE GULCH OF DEADWOOD AND STARTED TO BUILD THE TOWN — THEY FOUND PLOWS, GRINDSTONES, PICKS, FURNITURE, ETC., 6 TO 7 FEET BELOW THE GROUND — EVIDENCE THAT PEOPLE HAD LIVED THERE MANY YEARS BEFORE BUT NO ONE KNOWS WHO THEY WERE!



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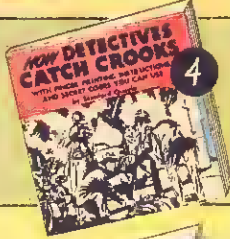


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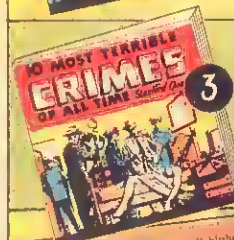


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# SHERIFF BILL WAYNE

**S**HERIFF BILL WAYNE was a short man, not much over five feet, and he looked like a kindly old grandfather. But there wasn't a desperado in the southwest who didn't know that he was better off slugging it out with the brawniest six footer than having "Pop" Wayne on his tail. What Wayne lacked in bulk he made up in brain and at fifty-five he could still get a pigeon on the wing without stopping to take aim. Thanks to him there was more law and order in the town of Lindale and the surrounding county than in all the land west of the Mississippi.

Wayne's fame, however, had not reached the ears of Joe Winsler, cattle-rustler and thief, up in Dalsen. On a July day in 1872 Winsler decided to move on, and it was Lindale he decided to head for. He didn't really care where he went, but Joe was a guy who believed in fate. It was fate, he thought, that threw at his feet a torn envelope as he headed for a saloon . . . a scrap of paper with the words "Lindale, Arizona," on it.

In the saloon he ordered a drink, then turned to the small group at the other end of the bar.

"Any of you guys know Lindale, Arizona?" he demanded.

One man turned to look at Joe. "The county or the town?" he asked "I know both. I've got a brother there."

"Well? What's it like?" Joe snapped.

"It's the cleanest, quietest, most law-abiding town in the southwest," the stranger informed him.

"Well it won't be for long," Joe promised. The other man shrugged and turned away.

Winsler entered Lindale quietly enough. And for a while the townspeople had no reason to suspect that their newest neighbor would prove

to be highly undesirable. Winsler was waiting for his newness to wear off and for other strangers to arrive in town before he pulled anything, so that the finger of suspicion would not point only to him. He had decided to neglect cattle rustling for awhile in favor of less strenuous ways of making some money.

He had been in town two weeks before he acted. His first victim was Bill Reed, the owner of the Red Post saloon. At four o'clock Sunday morning almost everyone in town was asleep. Bill, a man of sixty, well-liked by everybody, was counting his week's receipts. The only light still on in the saloon was over the bar and the rest of the room was in deep shadow. Bill was too engrossed to notice when a dark form pushed open the swinging door and entered. Joe Winsler, masked and armed, made his way stealthily through the semi-darkness until he reached the bar. Then, one hand lifted a gun and brought the heavy barrel down hard on Bill Reed's head. Before he crumpled to the floor, the startled bartender caught a fleeting glimpse of his assailant.

Two minutes later Joe Winsler fled with the money. Bill Reed was found at ten in the morning, when someone noticed that the light was still on over the bar. He was unconscious but alive. He came to at five in the afternoon. To Sheriff Wayne's question he could only say. "He was masked. But I don't think he was anyone I knew." At eight that evening Bill Reed died.

The town was enraged. Nothing like this had happened in four years. The Sheriff called a council of war. "We have almost nothing to go on," he admitted, "except that it was probably a stranger. There are about eight newcomers in town. We can question them, but I don't think it will get us anywhere."

The sheriff was right. All eight swore they had been asleep at the time of the killing and there was nothing to prove that one of them was



lying. A careful watch to see if anyone was spending more money than he ought to also proved useless. The killer was being careful.

"Well," Bill Wayne said, when almost a week had passed with no developments, "there's only one thing to do."

On Saturday afternoon most of the town gathered on Main Street or in the two saloons to relax. Almost everyone in town, including Joe Winsor, was within earshot when Deputy Paul Barton stopped to greet old Mrs. Binkley, who was standing in front of her general store with some friends.

Mrs. Binkley was slightly deaf and Barton shouted. "Afternoon, Mrs. Binkley. Is Jim still away?"

Mrs. Binkley, like many people who are hard of hearing, spoke very loudly. "Afternoon, Paul," she said. "Yes, he's still east, with his folks. I expect him back Monday, though."

"I bet you'll be glad not to have to take care of the general store by yourself," Paul said.

"Oh, I don't mind. All my customers are so nice and helpful. As a matter of fact, I think business is better with Jim away. Lots of people have been paying their debts this week, too."

"I hope you've been putting all that money in the bank," Paul said.

"Well, Jim usually attends to that. He says I can't get my figures straight. So I guess I'll just leave it all in the store till he gets back. Monday's time enough to put it in the bank."

"I guess you know best, Mrs. Binkley," Paul said.

In the bar, Joe Winsor was listening intently. Mrs. Binkley usually closed up around ten, he knew. Most people would either be at the barn dance or drinking in the bar, and it would be very noisy. Joe knew the back entrance to the store and that the back of Binkley's store was dark. But he didn't know where Mrs. Binkley put the money at night so he would have to come while she was still there. "Maybe it's a trap," Joe thought. "But the old lady is deaf, and her husband has been gone since before I robbed the saloon. If I'm gonna rob that store this is the time to do it. I'll clean it out and skip town. This place is too tame for Joe Winsor, anyway!"

At eight Joe went to the Blue Bottle. Through the window he could keep an eye on the general

store, where business seemed to be excellent. With each purchase Joe's dreams of a good take mounted and his fear of a trap faded. At nine thirty he saw the sheriff, with a group of men, heading down the street toward the barn where the dances were held. By a quarter of ten business had stopped in the store. Mrs. Binkley was putting things away and blowing out lights until only one remained lit. Joe made an unobtrusive exit and headed around the block so he could reach the store from the rear.

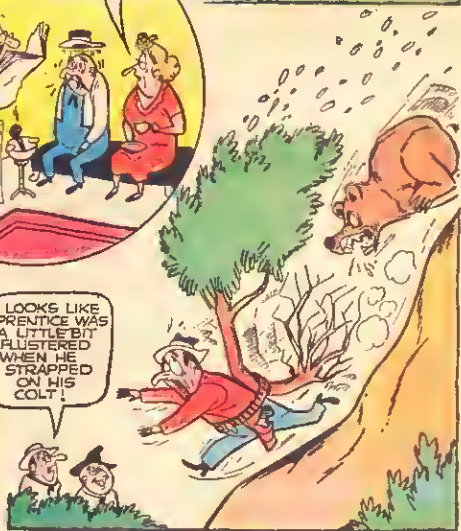
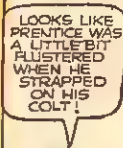
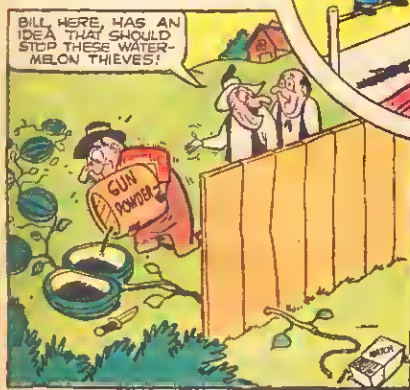
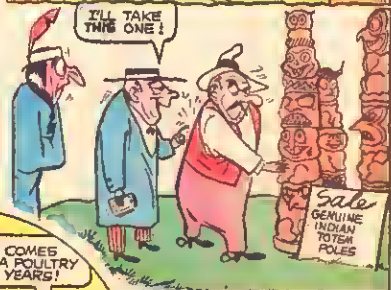
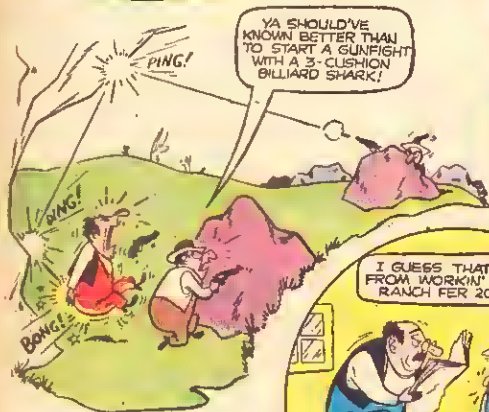
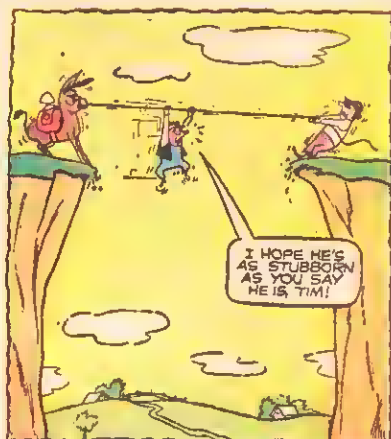
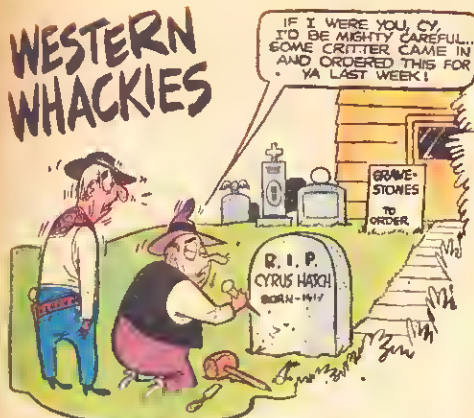
The back door was closed, but not locked. It squeaked a little as Joe pushed it open but Mrs. Binkley, he knew, wouldn't hear it. Mrs. Binkley was just inside, with her back to the door. Evidently she was ready to leave, because she had her hat on. She was doing something at a little table, and both she and the table, Joe noticed, were hidden from the street by a screen. In any case the one light was too dim to reveal anything. She was probably putting away the money, Joe thought. He moved forward quietly, with his pistol butt raised. But before he could bring it down, the plump little figure jumped away, whirled around, and snapped, "Drop that gun." Joe was too startled to move. His hand was still in the air when two armed men stepped out from behind the screen.

Almost a minute passed before Winsor realized that the little figure was holding not a box of money but two six-shooters, and that the face under the bonnet was not Mrs. Binkley's, but Sheriff Wayne's. The real Mrs. Binkley, under orders, had bidden in a closet as soon as Joe left the saloon. Now she put her head out to ask, "Is it safe?"

"It's safe, Mrs. Binkley," Wayne assured her, taking off his cloak and bonnet. "I should have known it would turn out to be this guy. Remember a man in a saloon in Dalsen, Winsor? You asked him about Lindale and he said it was a nice, peaceful town. Well, that was my brother you spoke to. Just yesterday I got a letter from him warning me that a husky red-headed guy was coming along to make some trouble. And just in case you're interested, he went on to say, 'If he does start anything, I know you'll take care of him.' You should've asked my brother some more questions before you came to Lindale, Winsor. He could have told you that around here, Crime doesn't pay."

THE END

# WESTERN WHACKIES





# WIN \$1,000

# CASH REWARD

## NAME this HORSE!

OR ANY ONE  
OF THE MORE THAN  
125 GENEROUS PRIZES

### *\$1500 in All!*

You may win \$1,000.00 in cash. There are 126 cash prizes in all. Help us to launch "BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN MAGAZINE." Greatest new comic magazine in 20 years. Help us celebrate. Choose a name for the BLACK DIAMOND'S wonderful horse. Read rules and directions on the two following pages.

Read the exciting adventures of the BLACK DIAMOND himself in "BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN" Comics.

See how the BLACK DIAMOND came to own his wonderful horse.

What shall the BLACK DIAMOND call him? You choose the name.

Tell all your friends. Get a copy of "BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN" from your news-dealer or, if he is all sold out, borrow one from a friend. You'll find many clues for the contest in "BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN" Magazine.

### IT'S EASY - IT'S FUN!

#### NAME THE HORSE

Can you think of a name for this wonderful, faithful horse? The name you choose may help you win \$1,000.

#### GREAT FUN! SOLVE THE PUZZLES!

On the next page of this magazine there appears a fascinating puzzle. Solve it. There will be another puzzle which will appear only in the April #10 issue of "BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN," on sale February 18th. Solve this puzzle also. There are 2 puzzles for you to work on.

The BLACK DIAMOND  
and his wonderful  
PALOMINO HORSE  
appearing exclusively in

# BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

"IN THE DAYS OF  
THE DESPERADOES"

A GLEASON-BIRO-WOOD  
SUPER PRODUCTION

THE  
GREATEST  
NEW  
COMIC  
MAGAZINE  
IN  
20 YEARS!

#### NOTHING to BUY — NOTHING to SELL!

Write a letter . . . 50 words or less . . . beginning with the following sentence: "BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN is a wonderful magazine because . . ." There are four things to do in this contest:

1. Name the Horse
2. Solve 2 Puzzles
3. Write a Letter
4. GIVE US YOUR DEALER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

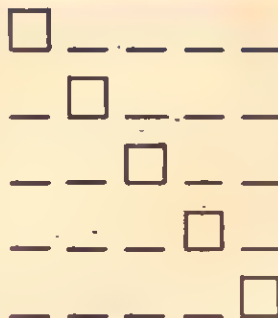
TURN THIS PAGE TO GET THE FIRST  
PUZZLE AND FULL INSTRUCTIONS

## NOW TURN THE PAGE... READ THE RULES... SOLVE THE PUZZLES

# HERE IS THE FIRST PUZZLE

## PUZZLE NO. 1

Fill in the dashes in each line with four letters to make the word which is defined directly to the right. When you have done this, add a letter to each box to change this four letter word to a different word of five letters. To start you off we'll tell you that the first word is ACES and the letter in the box is R, making RACES. What is the next word? If you fill in the rest of the diagram correctly the letters in the boxes, reading from upper left to lower right, will spell the name of a popular western outdoor show. Write this word on the coupon.



1. The four highest cards in a pack.
2. A small liquid measure.
3. Another name for dinner or supper.
4. What dressmakers use.
5. Where a prisoner is kept.

**IT'S EASY...IT'S FUN!**

The Second and Final Puzzle will appear only in BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN — April #10. On Sale February 18th.

## OFFICIAL CONTEST RULES

Follow these Exactly!

1. Print your name for BLACK DIAMOND's Horse on the coupon on opposite page or on separate piece of paper.
2. Print clearly the name and address of the newsstand where you buy Lev Gleason Comic Magazines.
3. Print solution of puzzle #1 and solution of puzzle #2, when you have solved both puzzles.
3. On a separate piece of paper—write a letter of 50 words or less, beginning with, "BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN is a wonderful magazine because ....."

**IT'S EASY...IT'S FUN!**

You may enter as many names as you wish, but each entry must be complete with puzzle solutions and a letter. The entries will be judged by Lev Gleason, Charles Biro and Bob Wood on the basis of the originality and spikability of the name you choose and the letter you write. Your letter counts toward winning a prize. You must furnish correct solutions to both puzzles in order to qualify. Decisions of the judges are final, but in case of a tie, duplicate prizes will be awarded.

This contest is open to everyone, men, women and child, except employees of Lev Gleason Publications Inc. and their families.

The contest is subject to all Federal and State regulations.

All entries become the property of Lev Gleason Inc. None will be returned. To be considered, envelopes containing entry must bear postmark before midnight April 2nd, 1949.

Remember to follow the contest rules. Read the "BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN" stories in issue #9 and issue #10. Choose a suitable name for BLACK DIAMOND's horse. Solve the 2 puzzles. Hold your answers until you have the 2nd puzzle solved. The 2nd puzzle will appear only in "BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN's April issue #10 on sale February 18th. If your dealer is sold out, borrow a copy. Be sure to give the name and address of the newsdealer from whom you buy Lev Gleason Comic Magazines. Be sure to write a letter of 50 words or less. When you have completed the requirements of the contest, mail to—

**LEV GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC., Black Diamond Contest**  
114 EAST 32nd STREET, NEW YORK 16, N. Y.



# 1st PRIZE REWARD

# \$1,000

## 125 OTHER CASH PRIZES

# \$1500 IN ALL!

### LIST OF CASH PRIZES

### TRY to WIN

First Prize	\$1000
Second Prize	\$100
4 Third Prizes—each	\$25
20 Fourth Prizes—each	\$5
100 Fifth Prizes—each	\$2

### \$1500 IN ALL

Just think what it would mean to win \$1,000.00 first prize. Think what you could buy with \$1,000.00 for yourself, for Mother and Dad. A wonderful trip for the whole family, or maybe a year in college.

You can be the one to win this wonderful prize. Decide right now to enter this contest. You may get your Dad, Mother, teachers and friends to help you. You'll have the best chance of winning if you carefully read the great feature stories of the BLACK DIAMOND in "BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN" Magazine.

Names of all winners will be printed in a later issue of "BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN"—and 1st and 2nd prize winners will have their pictures reproduced.

## USE THIS HANDY COUPON

LEV GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC., Black Diamond Contest  
114 E. 32nd ST., NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

The name I choose for BLACK DIAMOND'S horse is \_\_\_\_\_

My solution for puzzle #1 is \_\_\_\_\_

My solution for puzzle #2 is \_\_\_\_\_

The name and address of the Newsdealer from whom I buy Lev Gleason Comics is as follows:

Dealer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

(Street and Number)

City or Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing a letter of 50 words or less beginning with "BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN is a wonderful mogozine because \_\_\_\_\_".

My name is \_\_\_\_\_

My age is \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

(Street and Number)

City or Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY WITH PENCIL

**A  
TRUE  
WILD WEST  
STORY**

# SOMBRERO NICK TEBBETS

A RUTHLESS CUTTHROAT WITH A HEART OF STONE, WHO  
WAS AS SHADY AS THE IMMENSE BRIM OF HIS HAT!

NICK  
TEBBETS  
KILLED  
JUNE  
1888



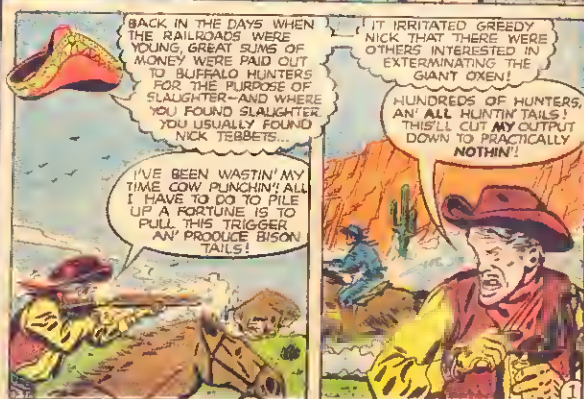
"GASP!  
SO THAT'S  
WHAT YOU WERE  
HANGING AROUND  
ME FOR—YOU  
STOLE MY  
REVOLVER!"

THE  
MARSHAL  
CATCHES ON  
FAST, DOESN'T  
HE, NICK?

AS FAST AS  
HELL, CATCH LEAD!  
LET'S TAKE IT  
NICE AN' EASY,  
MARSHAL, AN'  
SAY OUR  
PRAYERS!

**KIDA**

THE STAR OF  
WESTERN JUSTICE  
NO MORE BELONGED  
ON THE CHEST OF NICK  
TEBBETS THAN A SOMBRERO  
LIKE HE BELONGED ON A  
NORMAL MAN'S HEAD!  
EGOTISTICAL NICK TEBBETS  
WAS DETERMINED TO BE  
DIFFERENT FROM ALL OF  
HIS BRETHREN! TO SATISFY  
HIS EGOTISMGTY HE CHOSE  
AN IMMENSE HAT—WHICH WAS  
TO BECOME THE VISUAL  
SYMBOL OF AN IMMENSELY  
EVIL MAN! MINE IS AN  
IMMENSELY STRANGE AND  
UNUSUAL HAT. THE  
HEAD I COVERED  
WAS COMPLETELY  
MAD!



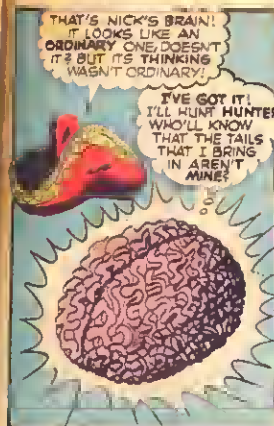
BACK IN THE DAYS WHEN  
THE RAILROADS WERE  
YOUNG, GREAT SUMS OF  
MONEY WERE PAID OUT  
TO BUFFALO HUNTERS  
FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
SLAUGHTER—AND WHERE  
YOU FOUND SLAUGHTER  
YOU USUALLY FOUND  
NICK TEBBETS...

IT IRRITATED GREEDY  
NICK THAT THERE WERE  
OTHERS INTERESTED IN  
EXTERMINATING THE  
GIANT OXEN!

HUNDREDS OF HUNTERS,  
AN' ALL HUNTIN' TAILS!  
THIS'LL CUT MY OUTPUT  
DOWN TO PRACTICALLY  
NOTHIN'!

I'VE BEEN WASTIN' MY  
TIME COW PUNCHIN'! ALL  
I HAVE TO DO TO PILE  
UP A FORTUNE IS TO  
PULL THIS TRIGGER  
AN' PRODUCE BISON  
TAILS!



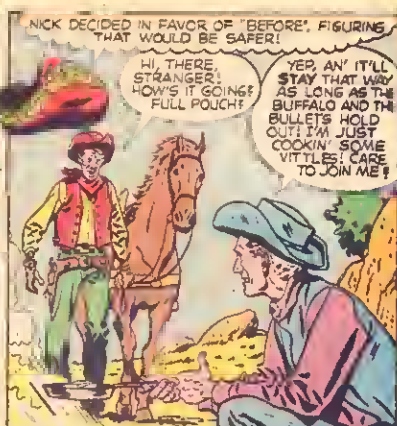


THAT'S NICK'S BRAIN!  
IT LOOKS LIKE AN  
ORDINARY ONE, DOESN'T  
IT? BUT ITS THINKING  
WASN'T ORDINARY!

I'VE GOT IT!  
I'LL HUNT HUNTERS!  
WHO'LL KNOW  
THAT THE TAILS  
THAT I BRING  
IN AREN'T  
MINE?



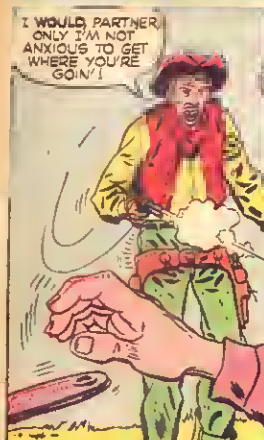
THE  
ONLY QUESTION IS,  
DO I TRY GULCH  
'EM BEFORE THEY  
GET BACK TO FORT  
LADES OR AFTER  
THEY COLLECT?



NICK DECIDED IN FAVOR OF 'BEFORE', FIGURING  
THAT WOULD BE SAFER!

HI, THERE,  
STRANGER!  
HOW'S IT GOING?  
FULL POUCH?

YEP, AN' IT'LL  
STAY THAT WAY  
AS LONG AS THE  
BUFFALO AND THE  
BULLETS HOLD  
OUT! I'M JUST  
COOKIN' SOME  
VITTLES! CARE  
TO JOIN ME?



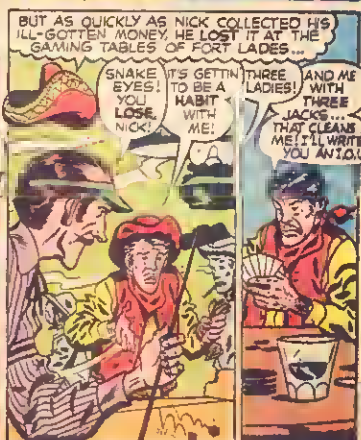
I WOULD PARTNER,  
ONLY I'M NOT  
ANXIOUS TO GET  
WHERE YOU'RE  
GOIN'!



NICK'S RUTHLESS  
MURDERS NETTED  
HIM MANY BISON  
TAILS!

AMAZING!  
SIMPLY AMAZING,  
TEBBETS! YOU  
MUST'VE BEEN  
KILLING TWENTY-  
FOUR HOURS  
A DAY!

JUST  
ABOUT! MANY  
A NIGHT I  
DIDN'T SLEEP  
& WINK... I JUST  
KEPT KILLIN'!



SNAKE  
EYES!  
TO A  
LOSE  
NICK!

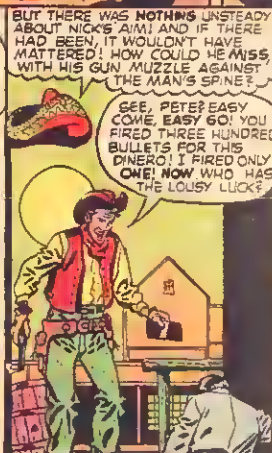
IT'S GETTIN'  
TO A  
HABIT  
WITH  
ME!

THREE  
LADIES!  
AND ME  
WITH  
THREE  
JACKS  
THAT CLEANS  
ME! I'LL WRITE  
YOU AN' OW!



I NEVER SAW A  
GUY WITH LOUSIER  
LUCK! WHY DON'T  
YOU QUIT GAMBLIN',  
NICK?

IT'S EASY COME,  
EASY GO WITH ME,  
PETE! WILL YOU SEE  
ME BACK TO MY  
HOTEL? I GUESS I  
DRANK TOO MUCH...  
MY L-LESS AIN'T  
SO STEADY...



BUT THERE WAS NOTHING UNSTEADY  
ABOUT NICK'S AIM! AND IF THERE  
HAD BEEN, IT WOULDN'T HAVE  
MATTERED! HOW COULD HE MISS,  
WITH HIS GUN MUZZLE AGAINST  
THE MAN'S SPINE?

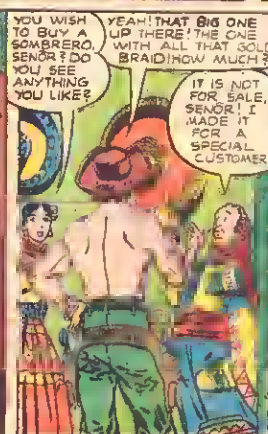
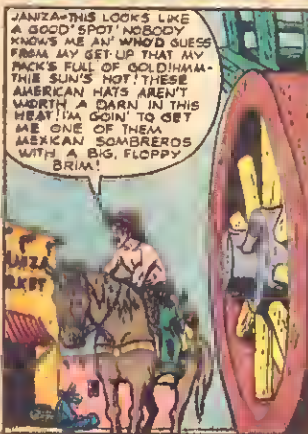
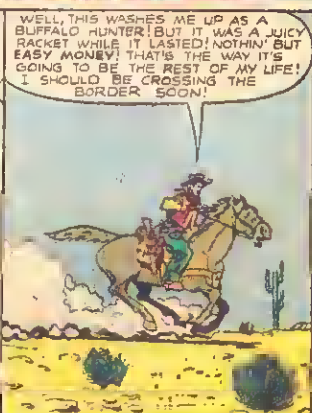
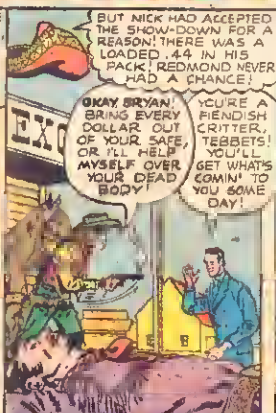
SEE, PETER EASY  
COME, EASY GO! YOU  
FIRED THREE HUNDRED  
BULLETS FOR THIS  
DINERO! I FIRED ONLY  
ONE! NOW WHO HAS  
THE LOUSY LUCK?



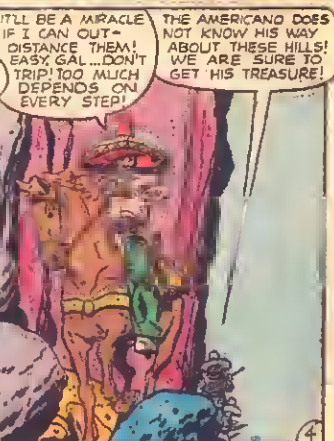
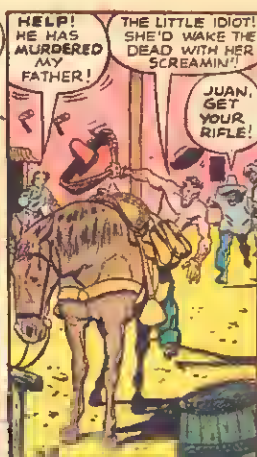
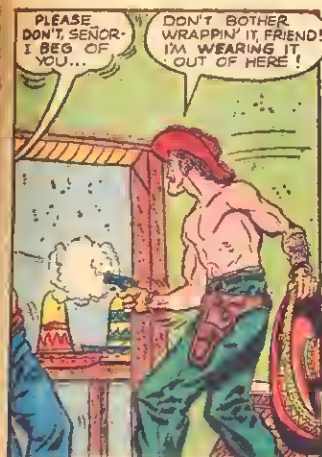
FUNNY THE  
NUMBER OF  
TAILS NICK  
TEBBETS  
BRINGS IN  
FOUR TIMES  
MORE THAN  
DUNN  
CORRAL

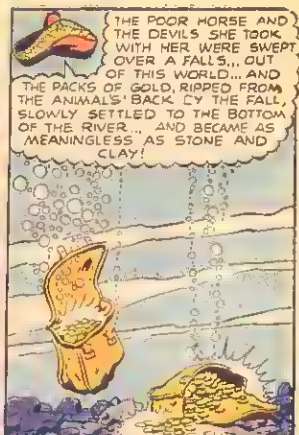
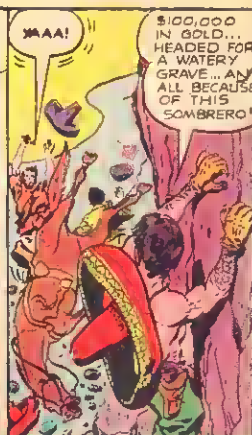
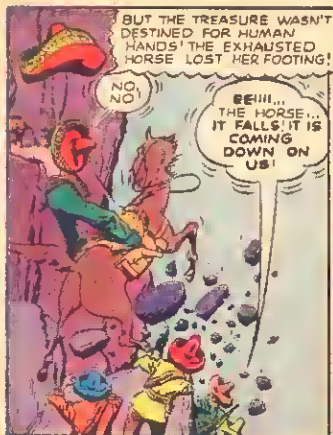
IT AIN'T HALF  
AS FUNNY  
AS THE WAY  
THOSE NEXT BEST  
HUNTERS KEEP  
DISAPPEARIN'  
AN' THOSE WITH  
BULLETS IN THEIR  
BACKS HAVE  
NO TAILS!

QUIET,  
REDMOND!  
LET'S  
HAVE  
NO  
ACCU-  
SATIONS  
WITHOUT  
EVIDENCE!

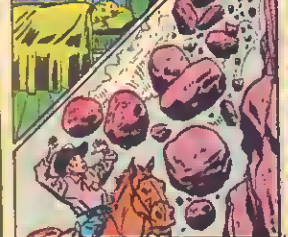
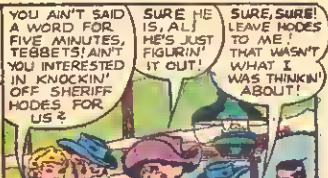
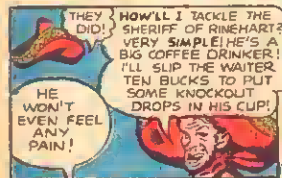
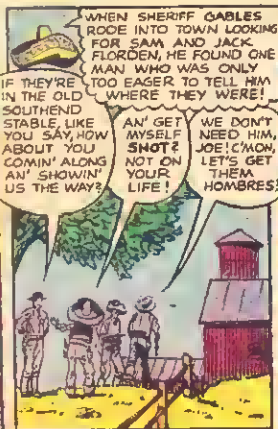














SO YOU'RE WITH MEET GOOD!  
NOW FOR THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN!  
FIRST WE GET RID OF THE  
SHERIFFS OF ALL NEARBY  
TOWNS... AN' PUT OUR OWN  
GUYS IN OFFICE!



MY FRIENDS,  
YOU MUST REMEMBER  
WHAT NICK TEBBETS STANDS  
FOR... AS MY BIG SOMBRERO  
SHADES MY EYES FROM THE SUN,  
SO MY REGIME SHALL SHADE  
MY CONSTITUENTS FROM  
THE LAWLESS!

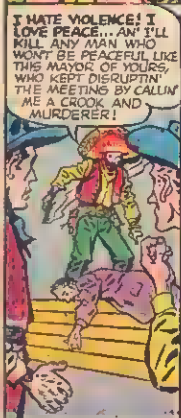
THESE FOOLS  
ARE GOING FOR  
THAT DRIVE!

VOTE FOR  
NICK TEBBETS  
SHERIFF

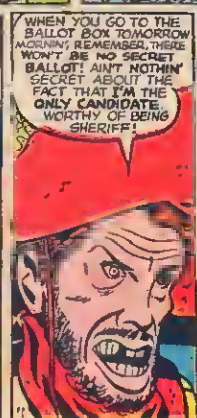


LOOKS  
LIKE SHERIFF  
NIXON OF TULOS  
JUST RESIGNED!

JUST LIKE  
SHERIFF RAWLINGS  
OF BLUE CANYON  
DID YESTERDAY!  
RESIGNED... THEN  
SHOT HIMSELF  
IN THE BACK...



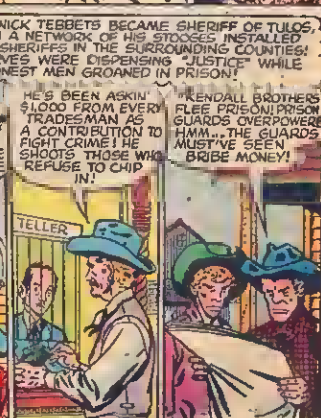
I HATE VIOLENCE! I  
LOVE PEACE... AN' I'LL  
KILL ANY MAN WHO  
WON'T BE PEACEFUL LIKE  
THIS MAYOR OF YOURS,  
WHO KEPT DISRUPTIN'  
THE MEETING BY CALLIN'  
ME A CROOK AND  
MURDERER!



WHEN YOU GO TO THE  
BALLOT BOX TOMORROW  
MORNING, REMEMBER, THERE  
WON'T BE NO SECRET  
BALLOT! AIN'T NOTHIN'  
SECRET ABOUT THE  
FACT THAT I'M THE  
ONLY CANDIDATE  
WORTHY OF BEING  
SHERIFF!



I'M NAMIN' MY SALOON  
"THE BIG SOMBRERO"!  
MAYBE TEBBETS'LL  
BE FLATTERED BY THE  
IDEA AND NOT GIVE ME  
ANY TROUBLE!



SO NICK TEBBETS BECAME SHERIFF OF TULOS,  
WITH A NETWORK OF HIS STOOGES, INSTALLED  
AS SHERIFFS IN THE SURROUNDING COUNTIES!  
THIEVES WERE DISPENSING "JUSTICE" WHILE  
HONEST MEN GROANED IN PRISON!

HE'S BEEN ASKIN'  
\$1000 FROM EVERY  
TRADESMAN AS  
A CONTRIBUTION TO  
FIGHT CRIME! HE  
SHOOTS THOSE WHO  
REFUSE TO CHIP  
IN!

KENDALL BROTHERS  
FLEE PRISON! PRISON  
GUARDS OVERPOWERED  
HMM... THE GUARDS  
MUST'VE SEEN  
BRIBE MONEY!



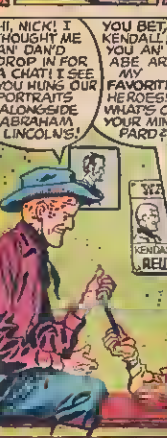
TEBBETS' "DEPUTIES"  
BANK GUARDS  
AND WE SCOOP  
UP THE CASH!  
WHAT COULD  
BE EASIER!



TEBBETS IS WORTH  
EVERY PENNY OF  
THE TWENTY PER-  
CENT HE GETS  
FOR THESE JOBS!



OUR TRAIL  
LEADS  
STRAIGHT  
UP TO THIS  
TOOL SHED.  
AN' NICK'S  
TAKIN' THE  
POSSE ON A  
CHASE INTO  
THE HILLS.  
WHAT A  
LAUGH!



HANG THAT  
FOOL FOR  
INSUB-  
ORDINATION,  
BOYS! THEN  
SCOUR THE  
HILLS FOR  
THE TRAIN  
ROBBERIES!

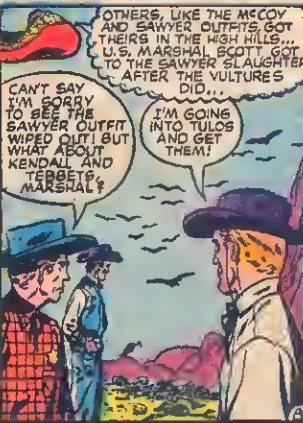
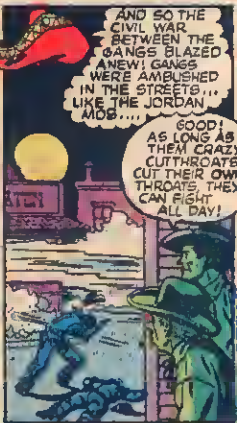
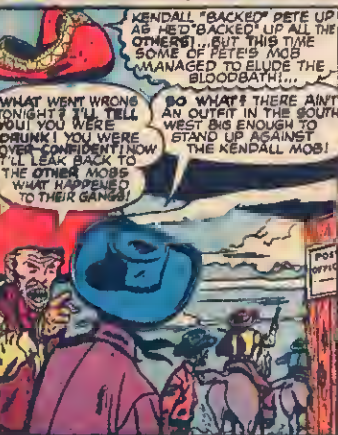
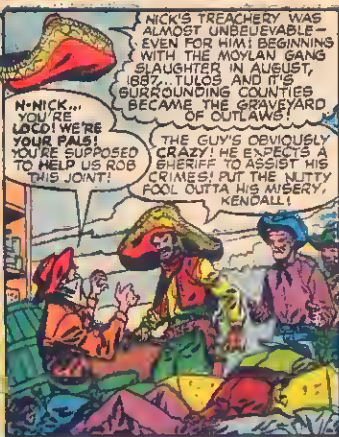


HI, NICK! I  
THOUGHT ME  
AN' DAN'D  
DROP IN FOR  
A CHAT! I SEE  
YOU HUNG OUR  
PORTRAITS  
ALONGSIDE  
ABRAHAM  
LINCOLN'S!

YOU BET,  
KENDALL!  
YOU AN'  
ABE ARE  
MY  
FAVORITE  
HEROES!  
WHAT'S ON  
YOUR MIND  
FARD?

WE GOT A GRIPE,  
NICK! THIS  
MONOPOLIZIN'  
THE SHERIFF'S  
OFFICE WAS A  
GOOD IDEA IN  
THE BEGINNIN'...  
BUT IT AIN'T  
NO MORE!







ARE YOU CRAZY, MARSHAL? THAT'S LIKE PULLIN' THE GROUND OVER YOUR HEAD!

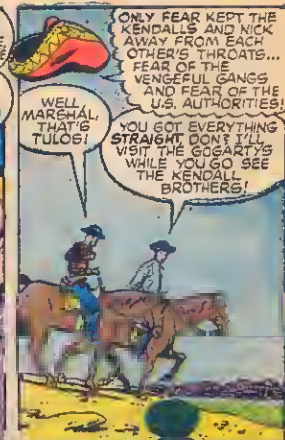
NOT QUITE, SHERIFF! KENDALL AND TEBBETS HAVE DOUBLE-CROSSED SO MANY GANGS, ONE HINT OF SUSPICION WOULD SOW THE SEEDS OF DISUNITY BETWEEN THEM! I'M GOING TO PLAY ONE MOB AGAINST THE OTHER!



YOU AN' YOUR BRIGHT IDEAS! YOU KNOW WHAT WE ATTRACTED BACK TO TULOS? U.S. MARSHAL SCOTT!

AN' IF YOU HADN'T BUNGLED PETE'S JOB, WE WOULD'VE BEEN ON EASY STREET! YOU GUYS DISGUST ME!

MIND YOUR TONGUE, NICK! WE MIGHT GET A HAPPY IDEA TO CUT IT OUT!



ONLY FEAR KEPT THE KENDALLS AND NICK AWAY FROM EACH OTHER'S THROATS... FEAR OF THE VENGEFUL GANGS, AND FEAR OF THE U.S. AUTHORITIES!

YOU GOT EVERYTHING STRAIGHT DON'T I? VISIT THE GOGARTYS WHILE YOU GO SEE THE KENDALL BROTHERS!



WELL, WELL... A FLY WALKED INTO THE SPIDERS DEN!

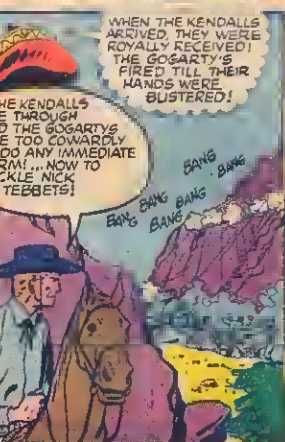
DELIBERATELY GOGARTY! -HOWD YOU LIKE TO HAVE THE KENDALL BROTHERS AT THE OTHER END OF YOUR SIGHT? I CAN ARRANGE IT!

START TALKIN' MARSHAL!



AND WHILE MARSHAL SCOTT WAS CHATTING WITH GOGARTY, SHERIFF DON LANNING WAS VISITING THE KENDALLS!

KENDALL, YOUR PAL TEBBETS IS SELLIN' YOU OUT! I'M ONE OF GOGARTY'S GANG, AN' I OVER-HEARD TEBBETS MAKE A DEAL WITH GOGARTY TO KILL YOU TOMORROW NIGHT AT THE GORGE! I FIGURED THE INFORMATION WOULD BE WORTH FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS TO YOU!



WHEN THE KENDALLS ARRIVED, THEY WERE ROYALLY RECEIVED! THE GOGARTYS FIRED TILL THEIR HANDS WERE BUSTERED!

...THE KENDALLS ARE THROUGH AND THE GOGARTYS ARE TOO COWARDLY TO DO ANY IMMEDIATE HARM!... NOW TO TACKLE NICK TEBBETS!

BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG BANG



WHO SOLD US OUT GOGARTY? ... WAS IT NICK TEBBETS?

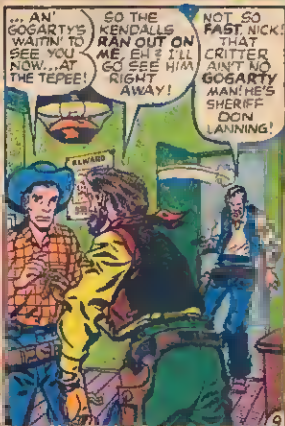
NO KENDALL! SOMBRERO NICK HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS! A U.S. MARSHAL FIRED YOU UP-BUT GOOD!

WHILE THEY'RE ALL WATCHING KENDALL HANGS I'LL GET BACK TO TOWN AN' WARN TEBBETS...



WITH THE GOGARTY AND KENDALL GANGS WIPED OUT, IT'LL BE A CINCH ARRESTING TEBBETS!

LET'S SEE IF I'VE GOT IT STRAIGHT- I'LL GO TO TEBBETS AND TELL HIM THAT THE KENDALLS RAN OUT ON HIM AND THAT GOGARTY IS WAITING AT THE TEEPEE WITH A PLAN FOR CATCHING THE KENDALLS!

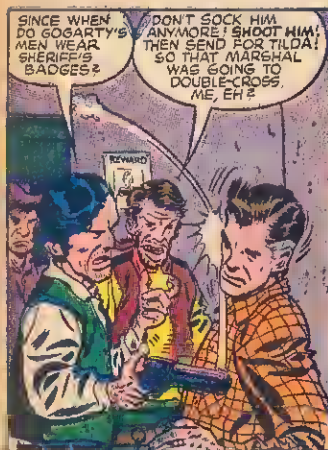


... AN' GOGARTY'S WAITIN' TO SEE YOU NOW... AT THE TEEPEE!

SO THE KENDALLS RAN OUT ON ME BUT I'LL GO SEE HIM RIGHT AWAY!

NOT SO FAST NICK! THAT CRITTER AN' NO GOGARTY MAN! HE'S SHERIFF DON LANNING!





WELL, MARSHAL, IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR LITTLE SCHEME'S GONE UP IN SMOKE... I'LL JUST PUT MY SOMBRERO DOWN ON THE TABLE! I DON'T WANT THE BRIM FLOPPIN' IN MY EYES WHEN I START THROWIN' LEAD YOUR WAY...



NICK HAD MADE THE MISTAKE OF PLACING ME EXACTLY WHERE TO FLY IN HIS FACE IF THE TABLE WERE KICKED UP - WORDS WHICH WAS WHAT HAPPENED!



# CONTEST!!!

## WIN STAMPS & STAMP ALBUM

You can win a Scott's Latest International Stamp Album containing spaces for stamps from the entire world. You can also win Gift Certificates that will entitle you to \$1 worth of stamps from any dealer whose name appears on this page. All you have to do is write on a post card: Why I collect Postage stamps. For the most interesting answer in the opinion of the judges, we will award the Scott's Album. For the next 10 most interesting answers we will award gift Certificates entitling holders to \$1 worth of stamps to be ordered from any dealer whose name appears on this page. The judges are Sidney Elias, Stamp Editor, and Lavaraft S. Gleason, Publisher.

### RULES

1. ON POST CARD ONLY WRITE 35 WORDS OR LESS "WHY I LIKE TO SAY POSTAGE STAMPS."
2. WRITE NAME, ADDRESS AND AGE.
3. TELL HOW LONG YOU HAVE BEEN SAYING STAMPS.
4. THE KIND OF ALBUM YOU HAVE.
5. DECISION OF THE JUDGES MUST BE FINAL AND ALL POST CARDS BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE LEY GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC.
6. IN CASE OF A TIE, DUPLICATE PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED.
7. THIS CONTEST IS OPEN TO ALL READERS EXCEPT EMPLOYEES OF LEY GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC., AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES.
8. SEND ALL ENTRIES TO

### STAMP PAGE EDITOR LEY GLEASON COMICS

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## STAMP PAGE By SIDNEY M. ELIAS Disputes

MOST of the countries of South America have had, at one time or another, disputes concerning their boundaries; some have been settled by friendly arbitration, some by border wars, while some are still continuing after many decades. The boundary between Bolivia and Paraguay, unlike those of other countries which follow the course of a river or run along a mountain range, consisted of a straight line. This boundary was established in 1894 by arbitration but was never ratified by the two countries. The disputed border line began at a point on the Paraguay River, three miles north of Fort Olimpo and ran along a straight line in a south westerly direction until it reached the Pilcomayo River and the Argentine border. The territory in dispute was part of the Gran Chaco, which consisted of marshy lands, dense jungle forests and grassy plains, much of which had been unexplored. As both countries claimed this territory, which has no natural boundary, many border disputes and armed clashes have taken place.

In 1928, Bolivia started a stamp war by issuing a map stamp in which the Chaco was shown as Bolivian territory. Later in 1931, Bolivia issued two more map stamps upon which were shown the disputed territory as "Chaco Boliviano." Not to be outdone, Paraguay came out with two giant Airmail map stamps in which the Chaco was shown as "Chaco Paraguayo." In addition, the stamps bore this inscription, "El Chaco ha sido, es y sera del Paraguay" which means "The Chaco was, is, and will be Paraguay's." Bolivia then became incensed and in 1935 issued a set of 14 map stamps for regular mail and 10 other map stamps for airmail use, all showing the Chaco as Bolivian.

While the stamp war was going on a real bloody war took place in the jungles of the Chaco between Bolivia and Paraguay.

Diplomatic negotiations were made by Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Uruguay and the United States and they meditated the controversy. The conflict was ended and the border re-adjusted. In addition, the map stamps of both countries were withdrawn and in 1938, peace was once again restored.

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OLSON STAMP CO., 200 Louis Ave., N.Y. 15, N.Y. Post-443

## ZOWIE-E-E! A BARREL OF FUN FOR ONLY A DIME!!

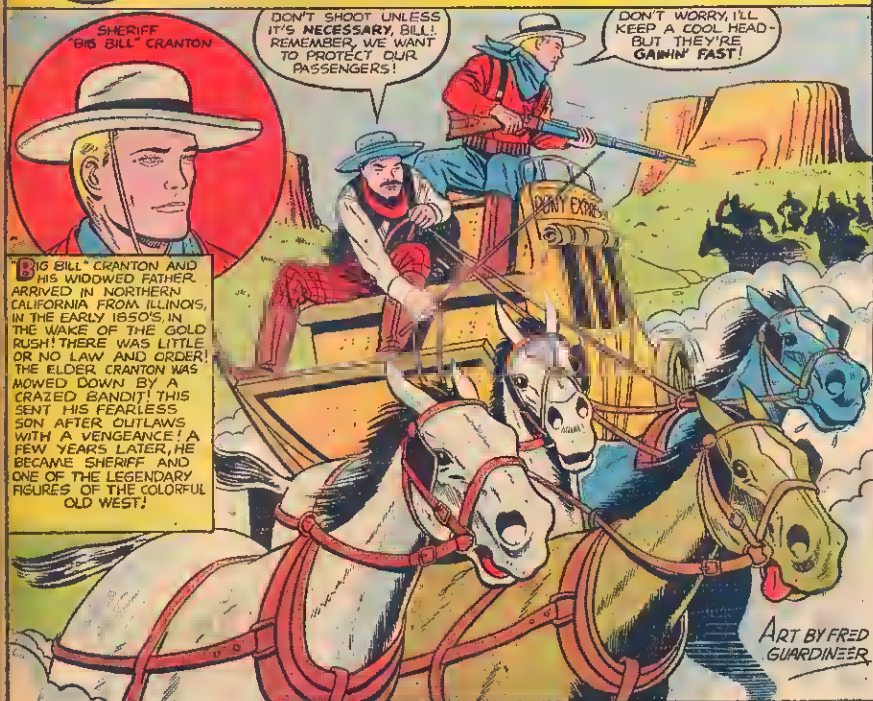
200 UNITED STATES STAMPS, absolutely unsorted and unsorted, just as received from the post office. Many varieties, including large denominations, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c, 45c, 50c, 60c, 70c, 80c, 90c, 1.00, 1.50, 2.00, 2.50, 3.00, 3.50, 4.00, 4.50, 5.00, 5.50, 6.00, 6.50, 7.00, 7.50, 8.00, 8.50, 9.00, 9.50, 10.00, 10.50, 11.00, 11.50, 12.00, 12.50, 13.00, 13.50, 14.00, 14.50, 15.00, 15.50, 16.00, 16.50, 17.00, 17.50, 18.00, 18.50, 19.00, 19.50, 20.00, 20.50, 21.00, 21.50, 22.00, 22.50, 23.00, 23.50, 24.00, 24.50, 25.00, 25.50, 26.00, 26.50, 27.00, 27.50, 28.00, 28.50, 29.00, 29.50, 30.00, 30.50, 31.00, 31.50, 32.00, 32.50, 33.00, 33.50, 34.00, 34.50, 35.00, 35.50, 36.00, 36.50, 37.00, 37.50, 38.00, 38.50, 39.00, 39.50, 40.00, 40.50, 41.00, 41.50, 42.00, 42.50, 43.00, 43.50, 44.00, 44.50, 45.00, 45.50, 46.00, 46.50, 47.00, 47.50, 48.00, 48.50, 49.00, 49.50, 50.00, 50.50, 51.00, 51.50, 52.00, 52.50, 53.00, 53.50, 54.00, 54.50, 55.00, 55.50, 56.00, 56.50, 57.00, 57.50, 58.00, 58.50, 59.00, 59.50, 60.00, 60.50, 61.00, 61.50, 62.00, 62.50, 63.00, 63.50, 64.00, 64.50, 65.00, 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**A  
TRUE  
WILD WEST  
STORY**

# SHERIFF BILL CRANTON

*HIS FEARLESS COURAGE AND DETERMINATION BROUGHT LAW AND ORDER  
TO THE MOST LAWLESS TOWN IN THE OLD WEST IN THE 1850'S!*



SHERIFF  
"BIG BILL" CRANTON

DON'T SHOOT UNLESS  
IT'S NECESSARY, BILL!  
REMEMBER, WE WANT  
TO PROTECT OUR  
PASSENGERS!

DON'T WORRY, I'LL  
KEEP A COOL HEAD—  
BUT THEY'RE  
GAININ' FAST!

**B**IG BILL CRANTON AND HIS WIDOWED FATHER, ARRIVED IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA FROM ILLINOIS, IN THE EARLY 1850'S, IN THE WAKE OF THE GOLD RUSH! THERE WAS LITTLE OR NO LAW AND ORDER! THE ELDER CRANTON WAS MOWED DOWN BY A CRAZED BANDIT! THIS SENT HIS FEARLESS SON AFTER OUTLAWS WITH A VENGEANCE! A FEW YEARS LATER, HE BECAME SHERIFF AND ONE OF THE LEGENDARY FIGURES OF THE COLORFUL OLD WEST!

ART BY FRED  
GUARDINEER

IN THE 1850'S, OVERLAND STAGE COACH DRIVERS OFTEN HAD TO FIGHT THEIR WAY OUT OF AMBUSH TO REACH THEIR DESTINATION!

HOW DOES IT  
LOOK, FAR?  
SUT? SEE  
ANYTHING?

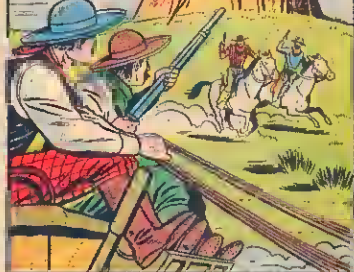
NOPE! NOT A BUCKAROO  
IN SIGHT! ALL CLEAR SO  
FAR! WE'LL BE OUT OF  
DANGER SOON AS WE  
CLEAR THOSE LAST  
RANGES UP AHEAD!

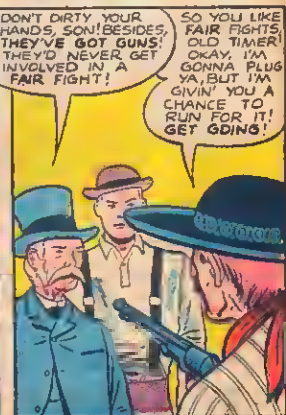
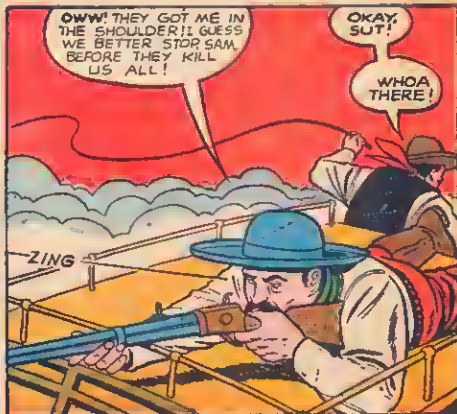
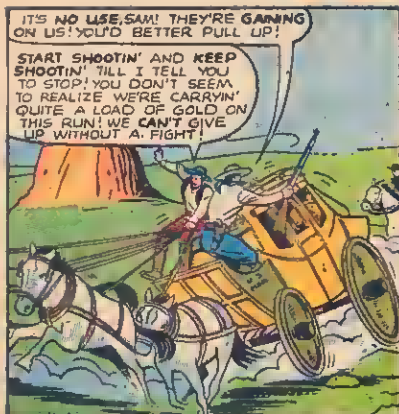
HERE  
COMES  
THE STAGE  
COACH  
NOW!

ALL RIGHT, RUSTY,  
YOU KNOW WHAT  
TO DO! WE GOTTA  
MAKE THIS ONE  
SNAPPY! THERE  
MIGHT BE AN  
ESCORT WAITING  
FOR THEM FURTHER  
DOWN THE  
ROAD!

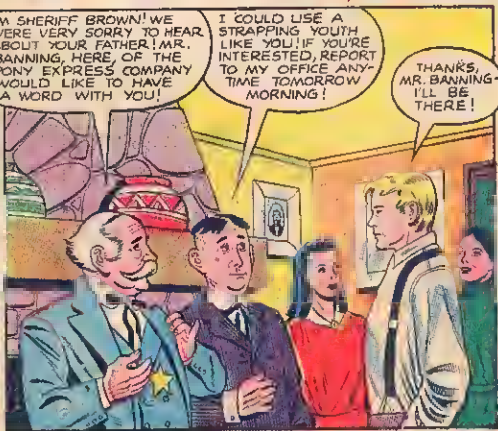
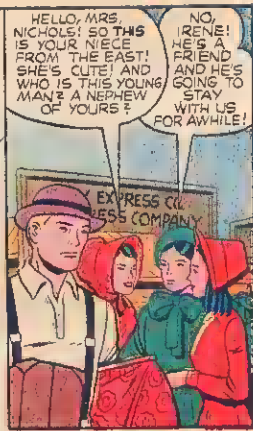
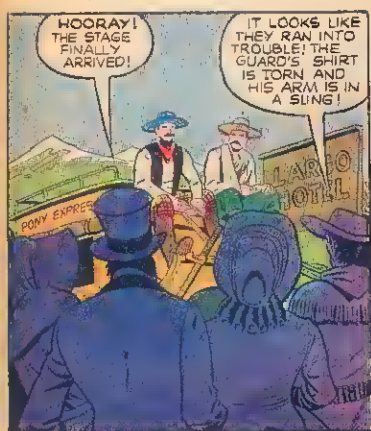
OH, OH! I WAS AFRAID OF  
THIS! IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE  
IN FOR IT! THAT'S RED  
BONGERS AND HIS PAL,  
RUSTY! THERE'S A  
PRICE ON THE HEAD  
OF EACH  
OF THEM!

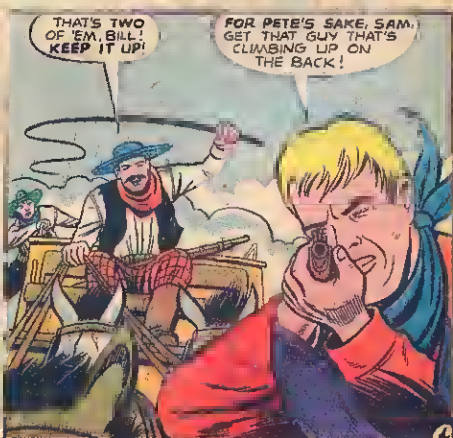
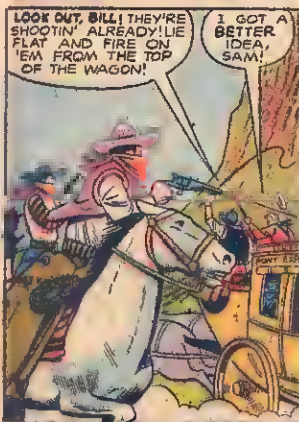
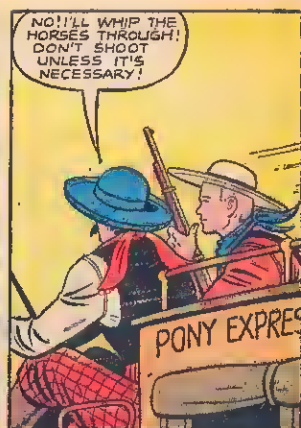
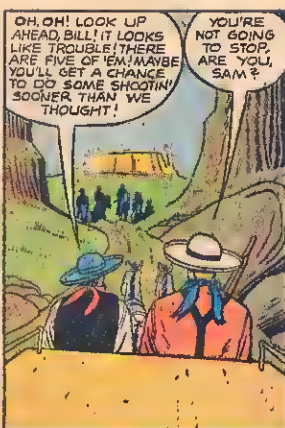
THEY HAVEN'T  
CAUGHT UP WITH  
US YET! GET YOUR  
GUNS READY! WE'LL  
SHOOT IT OUT WITH  
THEM IF WE HAVE  
TO!



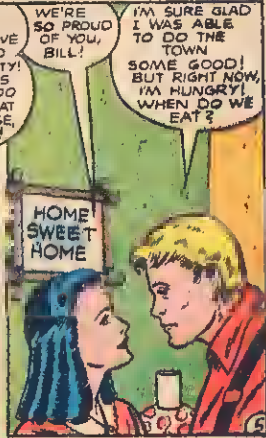
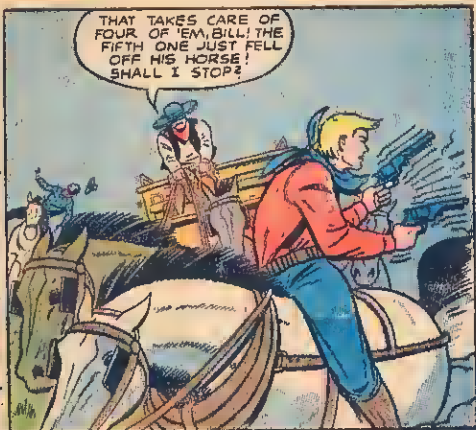
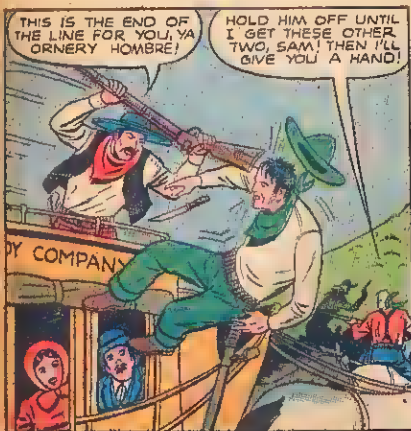


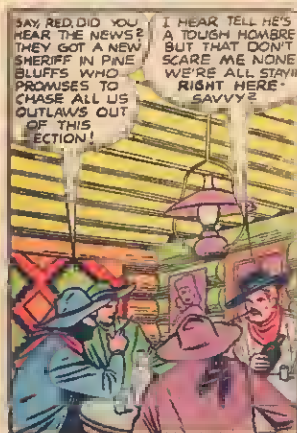
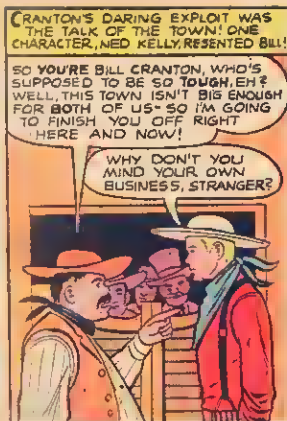




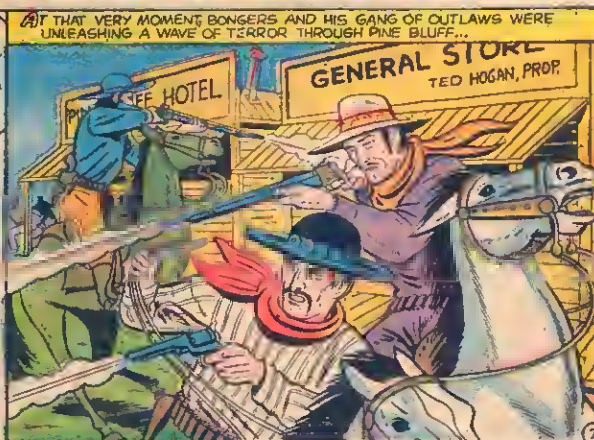
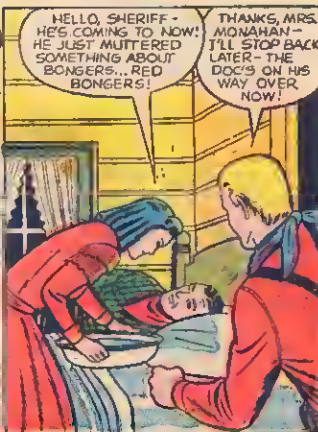
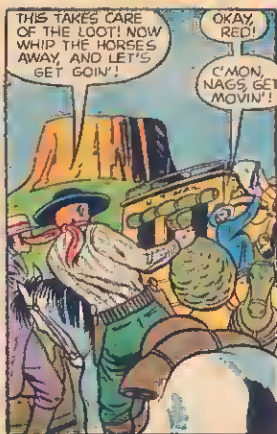


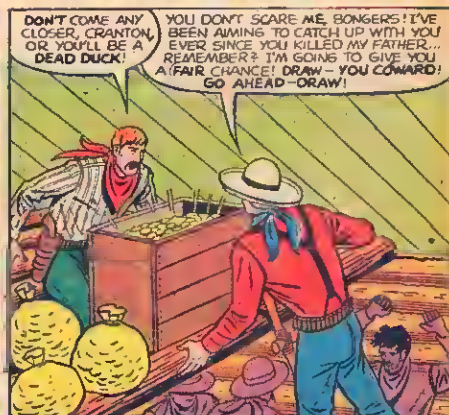














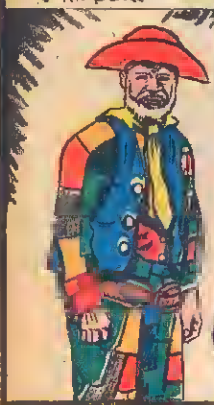
# SURE AS SHOOTIN'

by  
**CLAUDE  
MOORE**

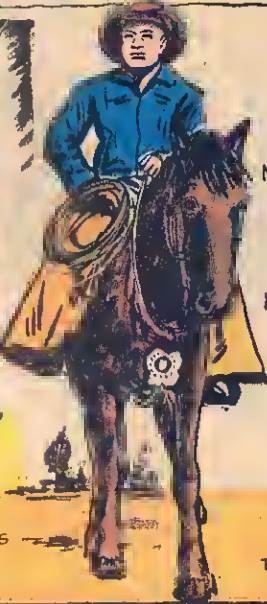


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C.H. MOORE



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LOOKING CHARACTERS OF  
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WHOSE CLOTHES WERE  
ALL MADE OF FINE  
PATCHES OF FINE  
BROADCLOTH. THE BUTTONS  
ON HIS SHIRT AND PANTS  
WERE ALWAYS-MADE OF  
SILVER HALF DOLLARS!

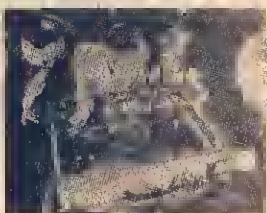


NOTORIOUS  
BILLY  
THE  
KID  
—  
KILLED  
21  
MEN  
—  
HE  
WAS  
KILLED  
AT  
THE  
AGE  
OF  
TWENTY-  
ONE!

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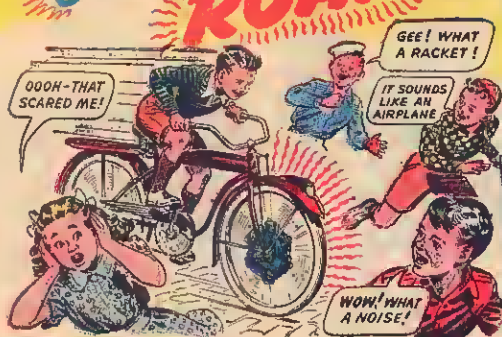
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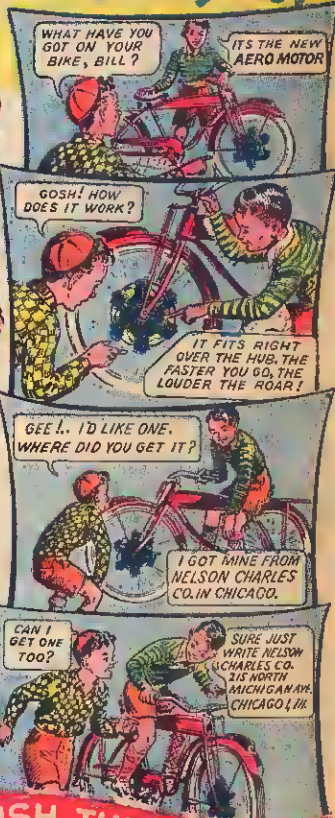
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